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HISTORY

AND

ANTIQUITIES

OF THE

COUNTY of NORFOLK.

VOLUME VIII.

CONTAINING

THE HUNDREDS OF

Launditch, Mitford, and Shropham.

Pro me: si merear, in me.

NORWICH:

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M.DCC.LXXXI.



THE HISTORY OF NORFOLK.

Hundred of LAUNDITCH,

IS bounded on the north by Gallow, on the eaſt by Eynsford, on the ſouth by Mitford and South Greenhoe, and on the weſt by Freebridge-Lynn, being about eleven miles from north to ſouth, and twelve from eaſt to weſt, and contains thirty-ſix towns, all of which (except Colkirk and Hoe) compoſe, and are in the deanry of Briſley, and archdeaconry of Norwich. It takes its name from a long ditch, with a bank that divides (as it is ſaid) the two pariſhes of Longham and Beeſton, and runs north

and ſouth, where at the croſſing of it, by the Norwich road, the hundred court was anciently kept, and was given by the Conqueror to Alan, ſon of Flaald, anceſtor to the barons of Clun, in Shropſhire, (and earls of Arundel after) and granted by the ſaid Alan to Siward, with the hundred of South Greenhoe, and (as ſome records ſay) confirmed by William Fitz Alan, ſon of Alan, to Durand, grandſon of Siward, on his paying 6l. per ann. rent for the two hundreds, and 8s. per ann. for lands in Wellingham, Sutton, and Bittering.

Alan, ſon of Flaald, had alſo with this (by grant of the Conqueror) the great lordſhip of Mileham, of which Stigand, archbiſhop of Canterbury, was lord before the Conqueſt, and probably of this hundred alſo.

Robert de Vere, conſtable to Henry II. and A. his wife, daughter of Hugh de Monteſort, had ſome intereſt in lands near to this ditch, and granted to the monks of Caſtle Acre, the wood, grove, and land of Launditch, viz. the third part of the grove, of which William de Pellita-Villa, or Pelleville, and Richard de Francaville, were parceners.

In the 3d of Henry III. the king directed his writ to the ſheriff of Norfolk, to deliver this hundred to Mary, widow of William Fitz-Alan, belonging to Mileham manor, which was her dower, and in the 6th of that king it is ſaid to be worth ſix marks per annum.

John Fitz-Alan, baron of Clun, held this hundred, with that of South Greenhoe, in fee-farm, paying 18s. 6d. per annum; and John le Strange was found to hold them of him at 6l. per annum, and with the ſaid

ſaid 18s. 6d. in the 34th of the ſaid king. This John le Strange was grandſon of Durand abovementioned.

In the 3d of Edward I. the juſtices itinerant found that the ſtewards of the honor of Richmond had newly erected a ſheriff's turn, and held two turns in this hundred of the tenants of that honor. After this Henry III. gave it to Peter de Savoy.

Edward I. in his 14th year, ſued the lord of this hundred, Richard Fitz-Alan, then earl of Arundel, as his right, and pleaded that Richard king of England (whoſe kinſman he was) held peaceably the ſame; but in the following year the jury for the hundred preſent, that John le Strange held it with that of South Greenhoe, paying yearly to the aforeſaid earl 6l. per ann. and to the king a fee-farm rent of 48s. and in the 33d of the ſaid king the jury preſent, that John le Strange, of Litcham, held the ſame till his death, May 21, 1305.

In the 4th year of Edward II. Ralph le Strange, of Litcham, conveyed by fine to John Fitz-Gilbert this hundred, and that of South Greenhoe; and in the 4th of Edward III. Robert Bainard died ſeiſed of this hundred.

In the 21ſt of Richard II. on the attainder of Richard earl of Arundel, theſe two hundreds were granted by that king to his uncle, John duke of Lancaſter; and in the following year, Auguſt 8, to Edmund duke of York.

After this we find them poſſeſſed by Thomas Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, who married Elizabeth, eldeſt daughter of Richard, and ſiſter and coheireſs of Thomas earl of Arundel; and in the 1ſt of Edward IV.

John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, died ſeiſed of the ſame, as one of the heirs of the Fitz-Alans.

On the death of this duke, and his daughter and heireſs, Ann, they came to the Howard family, dukes of Norfolk, as their heirs, ſir Robert Howard having married Margaret, daughter and coheireſs of Thomas Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, and Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, had livery of this hundred in the 1ſt and 2d of Philip and Mary; and in the reign of queen Elizabeth, on the attainder of Thomas duke of Norfolk, the queen granted it, *anno* 25, to William Dix, eſq. of Wickmere, in the hundred of South Erpingham, for a certain term of years, then valued at 46l. per ann. and king James, in his firſt year, June 17, gave it to Thomas lord Howard, earl of Surrey, grandſon to Thomas late duke of Norfolk, and Henry Howard, afterwards earl of Northampton. It afterwards came to the Barnwells, of Mileham, and Charles Barnwell, eſq. of Mileham, is the preſent lord.

The tenths of this hundred amounted to 118l. 8s. 9d.—Deduct for lands belonging to abbies and other religious houſes 13l. 16s. 4d. and paid by them.

The pariſh towns in this hundred, and the number of votes polled by reſident freeholders at the conteſted election for knights of the ſhire, March 23, 1768, are as follow:

	W.	deG.	A.	C.
Beeſton -	5	4	2	1
Beetly - -	0	0	6	6
Bilney, Eaſt -	4	1	6	1
Bittering - -	3	3	8	6
Briſley - -	4	5	2	1
Colkirk - -	4	5	2	1

Dillington - -	0	0	1	1
Dunham, Great } ———, Little } -	9	7	0	2
Elmham, North -	1	0	19	18
Franſham, Great } ———, Little } -	8	8	3	1
Gately - - -	0	0	2	1
Godwick - -	0	0	2	2
Greſſenhall -	2	1	14	11
Hoe - - - -	2	2	4	4
Horningtoft - -	2	2	3	3
Kempſtone -	3	1	0	2
Lexham, Eaſt } ———, Weſt } -	3	0	1	4
Litcham - -	14	10	0	3
Longham - -	0	0	6	6
Mileham - -	4	2	5	5
Oxwick, with Patteſly	1	1	1	1
Rougham - -	0	1	3	2
Scarning - -	6	5	2	1
Stanfield - -	2	1	4	1
Swanton-Morley -	7	6	5	4
Tittleſhall -	0	0	4	4
Weaſenham, All Saints } ———, St. Peter }	2	5	2	5
Wellingham - -	1	1	1	1
Wendling - -	0	4	5	0
Whiſſonſet - -	2	3	5	4
Worthing - -	2	2	0	0
Total	91	80	118	102

This hundred is ſituated pretty much towards the centre of the county, and comprehends an extenſive tract of rich and highly-improved country, well wooded and watered, the rivers Wenſum and Nar,

and ſome ſmaller ſtreams, having their riſe and courſe in it. The features of the country, in ſome places, are bold and beautiful, and the roads in general tolerably good.

The Seats and principal Houſes are,

Bilney, Eaſt,	Rev. Chriſtopher Munnings
Dillington,	Mr. John Daniel
Elmham,	Richard Milles, eſq.
Franſham, Great,	Mr. Edward Caſe
Franſham, Little,	Hammond Alpe, eſq.
Gately,	Robert Sharrock, eſq.
Godwick,	Thomas Wm. Coke, eſq, M. P.
Greſſenhall,	Lady L'Strange
Hoe,	Late Thomas Halcott, eſq.
Kempſtone,	William Heard, eſq.
Lexham, Eaſt,	Sir John Wodehouſe, bart.
Mileham,	Edward Davy, eſq.
Ditto,	Charles Barnwell, eſq.
Rougham,	Fountaine North, eſq.
Tittleſhall,	William Colliſon, eſq.
Weaſenham,	Richard Jackſon, eſq. M. P.

" The ditch from which this hundred is ſaid to take its name, (ſays Mr. Parkin) begins at, or near Wendling carr, in which the Greſſenhall river riſes, and runs directly towards the low common, on which the river Nar takes its riſe near Mileham; if the fact be true, it may afford matter of curious inquiry, particularly when that ditch was made, and for what purpoſe. Wendling carr and Mileham common were both in very early ages probably covered with water, as well as the low grounds adjoining to the two rivulets that riſe reſpectively from them. Such we know, from what we ſee at this day, is uſually the ſtate of countries little cultivated, and if it was ſo here,

here, and the remains of the ditch exiſts in the direction I am told it does, it was probably made to defend the country to the north and north-eaſt of the Nar and Wenſum, of which laſt the Greſſenhall brook is a branch."

This dyke, or barrier, is yet viſible in many places, and was, no doubt, a diviſion, or boundary of lands, lying on each ſide: but ſome who are fond of *extraordinaries*, fondly magnify this ſimple land-mark into a warlike trench. Mr. Parkin, however, whoſe *imagination* on ſimilar occaſions we have found equally ſanguine, does not *affirm*, but *ſuppoſes* it ſo—and ſo.

The hundred certainly takes its name from this dyke, or ditch; *laun* may be a corruption of long, or lang. The town of Longham is ſituated cloſe to the ditch.

Launditch pays 26l. 19s. to the general rate, at a ſix hundred pound levy.

A few years ago an act of parliament was obtained for erecting a houſe of induſtry in this and the hundred of Mitford, which is now eſtabliſhed and conducted in a manner equally beneficial to the poor, and to thoſe they ſubſiſt by. It was our intention to have inſerted a fuller account of the buſineſs of this inſtitution, but we do not on every occaſion find the diſpoſition of perſons, who might readily furniſh us with authentic documents, keep pace with our own deſire of laying before our readers every uſeful information in our power:—Such, ſuch is the inattention of individuals towards public gratification!

BEESTON, called BEESTON by MILEHAM, or BEESTON by LITCHAM, to diſtinguiſh it from other towns of the name in this county. This village ſtands on an eminence between Litcham and Franſham, and the church, with a handſome ſpire, is a fine land object.

EARL WARREN'S FEE. In the 22d of Edward I. Robert de Vere, earl of Oxford, is ſaid to have given the manor of Beeſton in frank-marriage with Joan, his daughter, to William, ſon of John, earl Warren and Surry; but how it came to belong to the earl of Oxford does not appear: probably this was a part of the manor of Sporle, which at the ſurvey was in the king's hands, and farmed of him by Godric, and ſo this part is included therein, not being mentioned in Doomſday-book.

In the Warren family it continued till the death of John earl Warren in 1347, when it deſcended to the Fitz-Alans, earls of Arundels, together with Caſtle Acre, as his heirs, and ſo was united to the manor that they held in this town.

BEESTON MANOR, ARUNDEL FEE, was a part of Mileham great lordſhip, and is included under the account of that town, and granted together with it, by the Conqueror, to Alan, ſon of Flaald, anceſtor to the earls of Arundel.

In the 30th of Edward I. Richard earl of Arundel held this town, and that of Mileham, by one knight's fee, valued at 57l. 5s. 9d. per ann. but we refer the reader to the hiſtory of that town for particulars.

From the Fitz-Alans, earls of Arundel, it was conveyed to ſir Thomas Greſham, and by his executors

to

to the Barnwells, Charles Barnwell, eſq. of Mileham, being lord of this town.

CANKEWELL'S MANOR takes its name from the Cankewells, lords of Newton by Caſtle Acre. Baldwin de Cankewell was valet to John de Burgh, ſon and heir of Hubert, earl of Kent, who gave him the manor of Newton; the ſaid Baldwin held this in the time of Henry III. and Michael, his ſon, in the 15th of Edward I. as a part of Mileham manor, under the earls of Arundel.

In the 14th of Edward II. John de Beeſton conveyed it John de Leche, and Alice, his wife, daughter of the aforeſaid Michael; and was afterwards held of them by the ſervice of the 40th part of an ob of gold, that is, the 40th part of three carrats of gold, in the 9th of Edward III.

The temporalities of the priory of Caſtle Acre were valued in 1428 at 7s. 6d. Weſtacre at 4s. 6d. Wendling at 10s. The tenths of this town, with thoſe of Bittering, were 9l.—Deducted 1l. 10s.

The church is a rectory, dedicated to St. Mary, anciently valued at thirty-three marks; the preſent value is 12l. 19s. 10d.

The patronage was in the family of Warren earl of Arundel and Surry, and their deſcendents, till 1563, when ſir Thomas Greſham, knt. preſented, from whom it came to the Barnwells, of Mileham.

In 1744 the Rev. Charles Barnwell was preſented to this rectory by Charles Barnwell, gent. *p. j.* and in 1770. July 19, he reſigned it to his ſon, the Rev. William Barnwell.

John

John Clement, prieſt, gave to John Skinner Maggot's cloſe, in Beeſton, to him and his heirs, by will, dated November 2, 1504, paying yearly to the church reeves of Beeſton, to the helping of the common charges of the ſaid town, 2s. and to diſcharge the ſame againſt the lord and the king.

William Hook, of Beeſton, gave by will two acres of land at the end of the green, abutting weſt on Bronger's-green, to keep his anniverſary yearly, 1506.

Robert Kett, *alias* Knight, gave certain houſes to the poor of this town in 1601, 20l. to the repair of the pinnacle and of the ſteeple, and 40s. wherewith the high window above the rood-loft was glazed.

The church was founded in memory of the Nativity of the bleſſed Virgin, and on the 8th of September a feaſt uſed to be kept by the inhabitants, and on the window was—*Orate ſpecialiter p. ſalubri ſtatu fratrum et ſoror. gilde glorioſe Virginis Marie, cujus honori hæc dedicatur eccl'ia, et omninm viventium benefactor. eorund. et p. a'iab; omnium fratrum et ſoror. defunctor. ejuſd. gilde, ac etiam p. a'iab; defunctor. benefactor. eorund. qui proprijs expenſis et pecunijs eidem gilde habende largitis, has octo feneſtras vitro fieri devote curaverunt anno* 1410.

The church is a regular pile, with a nave and two ailes, covered with lead, (the chancel tiled) with a tower, and thereon a wood cupola, or ſpire, and five bells. There were two chapels, one on the north ſide, called our Lady's, and one on the ſouth, called St. John's.

On

On a grave-ſtone, with a braſs plate, in the chancel, —*Johannes Forbye, artium magiſter, atq; hujus eccleſiæ rector, haſce tabulas, hæc ſacraria atq; ſubſellia refecit, et ſacris poſuit, non prophanis aut ſecularibus uſibus. Mors mihi vita.*

Over the door, in the north aile, are theſe old rhimes, in black letter:

This ſhare doth ſhow this manor ſine,
A ſhare it is, not money mine.
This many hundred years, you underſtand,
A ſhare to be a fine, for taking up of land.

Under this is the figure of a plow-ſhare, and the words about it,——*Beeſton Fine!*——*Lord Barnwell!*——*See thou keep it!*

The cuſtom of the manor is for all copyholders to pay on every death, or alienation, a plow-ſhare, or 2s.

On the ſcreen alſo is a *B.* a plow-ſhare, and a ton, an old rebus for Beeſton.

Every Chriſtmas-day 20s. is diſtributed to the poor in bread, and by the ſame donor alſo 20s. for a ſermon on Good Friday.

BEETLEY, Beetly, or Betely, wrote in Doomſday-book Betellea, was a beruite, or little manor, going along with, and depending on the biſhop of the Eaſt Angles' capital manor of Elmham, and held by William Beauſoe, biſhop of Thetford, in 1085, when it was eight furlongs long, and four broad, and was valued in Elmham.

Walter

Walter biſhop of Norwich was lord in the 35th of Henry III. and had a charter for free-warren.

On the exchange of manors and lands between Henry VIII. and the biſhop of Norwich, it was granted with Elmham to Thomas Cromwell, who was afterwards earl of Eſſex, and Edward lord Cromwell, his deſcendent, ſold it in the 40th of Elizabeth, with the advowſon, to John Athow; and Chriſtopher Crowe, eſq. of Eaſt Bilney, purchaſed it of the Athows.

The lands here and in Elmham, with two acres in Tibbenham, belonging to the monaſtery of St. Faith's, of Horſham, and three acres alſo in Heveringland, &c. were granted by queen Elizabeth, Auguſt 2, *anno* 27, to Theophilus Adams, and Thomas Butler, of London, gents.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and is a rectory, anciently valued at eighteen marks; it was not viſited by the archdeacon, and paid no procurations, being the biſhop's lordſhip; the preſent value is 9l. 7s. 9d. halfpenny, and is diſcharged of firſt-fruits and tenths. The town pays 3l. 12s. tenths. Here is a nave, with two ailes, covered with lead, a chancel, tiled, and a ſquare tower, with three bells.

Near the communion-table a grave-ſtone to—*Martha, wife of Richard Warner, cler. obijt July*, 1719, *ætat.* 75.

Richard Warner, A. M. hujus eccleſ. rector, inſtitut. 1669, *obi.* 11 *Sep. A. D.* 1722, *ætat.* 78.

One—*In memory of Robert Pooley, clerk, who died October* 22, 1663.——Alſo, of—*Hannah, daughter of Francis*

Francis Haſtings, gent. who died February 13, 1703, *aged* 22.

Jacobus Warner, gen. filius natu maximus Ric. Warner, nuper de Betely, gen. e vita exceſſit 18 *Dec.* 1713, *ætat.* 72.

Hic jacet corpus Ric. Warner, gen. obt. 10 *Feb.* 1672, *ætat.* 56.

Martha Warner, gen. filia 2*da. Ham. Ferrour, nuper de Wendling, gen. obt.* 29 *Oct.* 1696, *ætat.* 77, *poſuit Ric. Warner, rect.*

Alſo,—*Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Lombe, eſq. and wife of Mr. Richard Warner, obijt quinto Martij, A. D.* 1722, *ætat.* 35.

In 1722 Charles Morley, M. D. preſented Henry Rice to this rectory; and in 1771 the Rev. Chriſtopher Munnings had it on his own preſentation, being now both patron and rector.

BILNEY, EAST. This town does not occur in the book of Doomſday, being accounted for under the earl Warren's lordſhip of Greſſenhall, and that of the biſhop of Norwich, of Elmham, which took in all this town.

The EARL WARREN'S FEE was poſſeſſed by Wimer, his *dapifer*; from his deſcendants it came to the Stuteviles, &c. William de Stutevile was lord here, and of Greſſenhall, in the 8th of Henry III. and Richard Foliot in the 9th of Edward II. and in this fee was the patronage of a moiety of this church, till William de Stutevile, in the 8th of Henry III. granted it to Pandulf, biſhop of Norwich, on an exchange for the

the church of Briſley: from the Foliots it came to the Haſtings, and the Le Stranges, and ſir Nicholas Le Strange was lord in 1587.

Bishop of Norwich's Fee. Walter biſhop of Norwich had a charter for free-warren here, and in Elmham, in the 35th of Henry III. and in the ſee it remained till granted to Thomas Cromwell by Henry VIII. after the exchange of the lands belonging thereto in 1535; in this family it continued in 1593, when Edward lord Cromwell preſented to this church. After this it came to the Athows, Chriſtopher Athow preſenting in 1624, and in 1661; but in the year 1681 Chriſtoper Crowe, eſq. preſented as lord. This family had been ſettled here ſome time.

Chriſtopher Crowe, eldeſt ſon of Chriſtopher Crowe, eſq. of Eaſt Bilney, died November 4, 1690, and was buried here, and Chriſtopher Crowe, eſq. was lord about the year 1720. After this Thomas Crowe, M.D. of London, whoſe ſiſter marrying Mr. Munnings, of Norwich, a maſter-weaver, had by him Chriſtopher Munnings, eſq. The Rev. Chriſtopher Munnings, of Lynn-Regis, is the preſent lord and patron.

The temporalities of Walſingham priory in 1428 were 15d. The tenths were 2l. 14s. Deduct 4s.

In this town was born Thomas Bilney, a learned divine of Cambridge, who was burnt at Norwich in the reign of Henry VIII. 1531, for preaching againſt the doctrines of the Popiſh church, *vide Fox's Book of Martyrs*. The regiſter of Butley priory, in Suffolk, after taking notice of him as an heretic, adds—*Preſertim fuit p' totam Angliam vehemens ſciſma inter clerum et populum laicalem, viz. contra ſacra eccleſiaſtica, et ritus clericorum*

clericorum -------- ſacerdotum, necnon contra papam, et de indulgentijs, et excommunicationib;

Here was alſo born Andrew Pern, D. D. maſter of Peter-houſe, in Cambridge, and dean of Ely, in the reign of queen Elizabeth.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and is a rectory, formerly valued at ſix marks; the preſent value is 5l. 19s. 1d. ob. and is diſcharged of tenths, &c.

In 1708 John Jervis was preſented by Spelman Crowe, eſq. and in 1756 Chriſtopher Munnings, by by Mrs. Ann Crowe, widow of Dr. Crowe.

BITTERING, BETRING, or BRITRINGE, as it is wrote in Doomſday-book, was a beruite, or little lordſhip, belonging to archbiſhop's Stigand's great manor, or honor of Mileham, and valued with it: here were lands, &c. which Godric claimed, as belonging to the the fee of Ralph earl of the Eaſt Angles, or of Norfolk, (as forfeited on his rebellion againſt the Conqueror): this was held by a certain woman in the time of king Edward, who was ready to put it on trial, or prove that the money it was mortgaged for was paid, though Siward held it ſtill in mortgage, but William de Noiers held it at the ſurvey, with the manor of Mileham, of the king.

Here was alſo another lordſhip which Godric farmed of the king, with one in Mileham, where ſee an account of it; and theſe two fees made the townſhips of Bittering *Magna* and *Parva*. Both theſe fees, or tenures, came into the family of the earls of Arundel with Mileham, of the grant of the Conqueror, to Alan, ſon of Flaald. William, ſon of Alan, granted to Durandus, grandſon of Siward, this

lordſhip

lordſhip; Siward was anceſtor of a family of Le Strange.

Jeffrey de Bittering was lord in the 3d and 15th of of Edward I. had the aſſize, view of frank-pledge, waif and ſtray, in his manor of Bittering *Parva*. In the 30th of that king there was an exchange made between Richard Page, of Bucklow, in Suffolk, and Henry de Bittering, whereby Page grants to Henry all his tenement, &c. in Bucklow, with the advowſon of that church, &c. for Henry's tenement in Bittering: but the manor appears to be ſtill in the Bittering family; for in the 9th of Edward II. the earl of Arundel, and John de Bittering, of Bittering *Parva*, were returned to be lords of Bittering *Parva*, and Bittering *Magna*; and in the ſaid year Richard Foliot, as lord of Greſſenhall, had a fee in the town of Bittering; ſo that we are inclined to think that Bittering *Magna*, and *Parva*, were both held of the earl of Arundel, yet two diſtinct lordſhips, the firſt in the family of L'Eſtrange, and the other in that of de Bittering, as appears from Henry de Bittering's claim againſt Ralph L'Eſtrange, of the advowſon of the church of Bittering *Parva*, held under the earl of Arundel; and it further appears that the tenths of the Bitterings were joined to thoſe of Greſſenhall, and valued together at 6l. out of which 1l. was deducted; and ſometimes with Beeſton, at 9l. &c.

In 1338 John de Bittering preſented to the church as lord; but in 1349 ſir Robert de Cauſton preſented, and in the 33d of Edward III. John de Barford granted to ſir Ralph de Poley, and ſir William de Ruſhbrook, knts. this manor and advowſon, &c. and ſir Robert Knolles, knt. ſettled the lordſhip of Bittering *Parva*, with the advowſon, in the 6th of Richard II. on

II. on his truſtees, in order to the founding of a college at Pontefract, in Yorkſhire.

After this it was in the family of Pigot, and in the 11th of Henry VI. Thomas Pigot, eſq. conveyed it to Thomas Shouldham, eſq. with the advowſon; but in the ſaid year Roſe, wife of Bartholomew Pigot, of Stradſet, died ſeiſed of the manor of Bittering, and the advowſon, leaving Thomas Pigot, her ſon. Roſe was the daughter of ſir Ralph Poley.

In the 33d of Henry VI. ſir Andrew Ogard, knt. died ſeiſed of it; he married the daughter and heireſs of ſir John Clifton; but Robert Oker, and Barbara, his wife, paſſed it in the 17th of Edward IV. to ſir Robert Wingfield, who died ſeiſed of it, held of the manor of Mileham, in the 21ſt of Edward IV.

Chriſtopher Crowe, the elder, by deed, dated April 26, in the 37th of Elizabeth, in conſideration of 200l. portion paid to Roger Bozoun, father of Elizabeth, and of an intended marriage between his ſon, Chriſtopher, and the ſaid Elizabeth, infeoffs William Rugge, of Bylaugh, in the hundred of Eynsford, eſq. &c. in all his manor of Bittering *Parva*, except thirty-ſix acres and an half of paſture in Mileham, parcel thereof.

In 1665 Henry Crowe preſented to the church as lord; and in 1709 Robert Seaman, gent. and again in 1711. In 1730 Thomas Crowe, M. D. was lord and patron, when he preſented the Rev. Chriſtopher Sealby to the rectory, *p. j.*

The church of Bittering *Magna* has been many years dilapidated, but the place where it ſtood is call-

ed the church-yard. It is now an hamlet annexed to Greſſenhall.

The temporalities of Fakenham-dam in 1428 were valued at 10d. per ann.

The church of Bittering *Parva* is a rectory, anciently valued at 40s. the preſent value is 2l. 13s. 5d. ob. and is diſcharged of tenths and firſt-fruits. This church is ſtill ſtanding, but much decayed, and has ſervice in it only once a month; it is covered with thatch, has no ſteeple, nor bell, and no pulpit, but a deſk. In the chancel, which is alſo thatched, lie one or two grave-ſtones, with ancient croſſes carved on them, for ſome of the rectors.

BRISLEY is a conſiderable village, lying on the road from Litcham and Lenwade-bridge to Norwich, and near to the croſs road from Eaſt Dereham to Fakenham, Wells, &c. The name of this town does not occur in Doomſday-book, as being included under the account of the biſhop of Thetford's capital manor of Elmham, to which townſhip it joins. Many have fancied, and concluded, that if a town was not mentioned in the aforeſaid book, that it was not then in being; but the deſign of that ſurvey is to account for all the manors that were held at that time in *capite*, and as that is done under Elmham, there was no reaſon to mention this village, it being quite unneceſſary. That it was a part of the biſhop's manor of Elmham aforeſaid, appears alſo from a writ, or mandate, of Henry I. to Roger Bigot, (father of Hugh Bigot, earl of Norfolk) and Ralph Paſſelewe, to take care that Herbert biſhop of Norwich ſhould hold all his land, as well as his men, in Bruſelea.

In

In the 4th year of Henry III. there was an aſſize to enquire who preſented the laſt rector to the church of Briſley, which William de Stutevile, lord of Greſſenhall, claimed againſt Pandulph, biſhop of Norwich elect; the biſhop moved that he and his ſucceſſors ought not to be impleaded unleſs in the preſence of the king, (his bench) or juſticiary, and if the king, or his juſticiary, was not preſent, he would not anſwer to it.

The biſhop of Norwich had a grant of free-warren here in the 35th of Henry III. and in the 3d of Edward I. the biſhop had the aſſize, and other liberties, from the conqueſt.

On the exchange of the biſhop's lands in the reign of Henry VIII. it was granted with the manor of Elmham to Thomas Cromwell, afterwards earl of Eſſex. The late Richard Warner, of Elmham, eſq. died lord.

The honor and manor of Greſſenhall alſo extended into this town; and in the 8th of Henry III. Pandulph, biſhop of Norwich, granted to William de Stutevile, lord of Greſſenhall, the advowſon of this church, the moiety of the patronage of the church of Bilney being granted by William to the biſhop.

Jordan Foliot claimed free-warren in his demeſnes here in the 15th of Edward I. after this it came to the Haſtings, and ſo to the L'Eſtranges, and the late ſir Henry L'Eſtrange, knt. of Hunſtanton, was lord of this fee, and patron of the church. The tenths of the town were 6l. Deduct 6s. 8d.

The church is a regular pile, with a nave, a north and ſouth aile, covered with lead, the chancel tiled, with a lofty embattled ſquare tower, and four bells.

In the nave a grave-ſtone,—*For Chriſtopher Athowe, who died Oct.* 22, 1585, *aged* 72.

One, deprived of its braſs plate and inſcription, with the ſhield of Taverner remaining; this was—*In memory of John Taverner, who died in* 1548; *he married, firſt, Alice, daughter and heireſs of Robert Silveſter, of Briſley; his ſecond wife was Ann, daughter of* ——— *Crowe, of Eaſt Bilney.*

In the church cheſt is a braſs plate taken from a grave-ſtone,—*Orate p. a'ia Edmundi Gogney, qui obijt ij die menſis Julij, anno Dni. M°. Vc.* xliiii, *cuj; a'ie p'pitiet. &c.*

In the north aile, on the pavement, at the eaſt end, a grave-ſtone, covered partly with ſeats, with a portraiture of a prieſt, and—*Orate p. a'ia Johis Athowe, quo'da. rector. de Horny'toſte, qi. obijt* xviii *die Maij, anno Dni. M°.* ccccxxxi.

By it a mural monument of white marble, with the arms of Brograve, for—*Suſannah, wife of Simeon Brograve, gent. who died June* 30, 1682.——Alſo, for —*Simeon Brograve, gent. who died December* 5, 1697, *ætat.* 67.—Mrs. Brograve, his ſecond wife, and widow, remarried Dr. Amias, and was buried by her firſt huſband, Auguſt 22, 1720.

Edward Brograve was taxed for his lands in 1659, to a militia rate, at 72l. per annum.

In

In the church were the arms of Haſtings, of biſhop Spencer, and biſhop Becks.

Under the eaſt part of the chancel is a crypta, probably an ancient charnel-houſe, or cell, to ſome hermit, or anchorite.

The temporalities of Normanſburgh priory in 1428 were 2s. 6d.—of Peterſton priory 15d. ob.—Caſtle Acre 5d.

The church is a rectory, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, anciently valued at ſixteen marks; the preſent value is 8l. 7s. 7d. q. and is diſcharged.

The patronage was chiefly in the family of Haſtings, and afterwards in the L'Eſtranges. In 1742 the Rev. Thomas Weatherhead was preſented to this rectory by the late ſir Thomas L'Eſtrange, bart. of Hunſtanton. Lady L'Eſtrange, of Greſſenhall, is now patroneſs.

This town gave name to the deanry, which was taxed at 20s. the archdeacon of Norwich received of the dean of Briſley deanry, in the ſynod of St. Michael, for ſynodals 17s. and at Eaſter 17s. Peterpence paid in the whole deanry 18s. 4d. The deans were collated by the biſhop of Norwich.

In 1452 John Toke, by his will, orders, that out of his goods his executors ſhould erect a houſe for a poor man, to be built on his land, called Caleys, and one acre to keep it in repair.

COLKIRK. This lordſhip was in the biſhops when the ſee was at Elmham, and held at the ſurvey by William de Beaufoe, biſhop of Thetford: when

Ailmer, biſhop of Elmham, held it, there was a church endowed with forty acres, valued at 2s. the whole being valued at the ſurvey at 9l. it was five furlongs long, and four broad, and paid 11d. gelt.

Arfaſtus, or Herfaſt, biſhop of Elmham, had ſeized on a wood, called Fangeham, containing ſixty acres; this was granted in fee to biſhop Beauſoe, who gave it to his ſee, and ſo was united to the manor aforeſaid.

In Doomſday-book it is wrote Colechirca; "*Col*, (ſays Mr. Parkin) beſpeaks ſome brook, or rivulet, and gives name to many towns; as Colbrook, in Middleſex; Colby, in Norfolk; and Coleſhill, from the river Cole, in Warwickſhire," &c.

"The adjunct, *chirca* may ſet forth a clear ſtream, or water, as Sherlburn, in Dorſetſhire, and Sherbrook, in Derbyſhire, &c. and not from its ſcite near a church, or kirk, it being ſo called by the Saxons before their converſion to Chriſtianity.

"The word *kirk* itſelf denotes a brook, or ſtream of water, as Kirkburn, in Yorkſhire; Kirkſtead, in Lincolnſhire; Kirkdale, in Lancaſhire," &c.*

The family of de Colekirk was early enfeoffed of this manor by the biſhops of Norwich, and ſo, according to the practice of that age, aſſumed their name

* With due deference to the very *learned* opinion of this reverend author, we think *his* derivation erroneous. The church ſtands on ſome of the higheſt ground in the county, much expoſed, and at ſome diſtance from any ſtream of conſequence enough to give name to a town. Colkirk is nothing more than a corruption of Cold-kirk, or church; for it is as often wrote church, as kirk—being ſynonymous terms, locally uſed.

name from it. William de Colecherch was lord of this town, and of Hempſtead, in the 12th of Henry II. and in his 18th year held two knights fees of the old feoffment of the biſhop of Norwich: of this family might be Peter de Colechurch, who began to build the ſtone bridge of London in 1176.

Sarah, the heireſs of Colechurch, on her marriage, brought it to the family of St. Denis (*de Sancto Dionyſio*) and Roger de St. Denis, probably huſband of the ſaid Sarah, held it in the 2d of king John. In the 13th year he was found to have this lordſhip, late William de Colekirk's, and paid 10s. ſcutage for half a fee.

Sir Richard de St. Denis, knt. was his ſon, and lord in the 29th of Henry III. In the 43d of that king ſir Richard de St. Denis covenanted with ſir Richard de la Rokele, knt. to confirm to him in fee this lordſhip, with the advowſon of the church of Rokely, &c. but Roger le Ken, and John Manſel, had ſtill ſome right herein, which they conveyed for forty marks of ſilver to Rokele, in the 4th of Edward I.

Sir Richard de la Rokele died ſeiſed of it in the 24th of the ſaid king, held by two parts of three knights fees, valued at 20l. and of the lordſhip of Gately, valued at 5l. 4s. per annum, leaving Maud his ſiſter and heireſs, who married ſir Roger de Fraxino, or Atte-Aſh. In the 35th of Edward I. he had a writ, *ad quod damnum*, for changing a way in this town, and died lord in the 1ſt of Edward II. leaving Lucia his daughter and heireſs, who afterwards was the wife of Robert Baynard, of Whetacre, who in the 4th of Edward III. died ſeiſed of it for life, by the courteſy of England, held of the biſhop of Nor-

wich, of his manor of North Elmham, by the ſervice of paying at the end of every thirty-two weeks 10d. caſtle-guard.

The lordſhip then had a capital meſſuage, 160 acres of arable land at 4d. per acre, three acres of meadow at 12d. per acre, ten acres of paſture at 1d. per acre, twenty of underwood, at ſix years growth, worth 3s. per acre; rent of aſſize 53s. 4d. payable at Chriſtmas, Whitſuntide, and Michaelmas; a windmill valued at 10s. per ann. alſo forty quarters of barley at 2s. 8d. per quarter, payable at St. Michael, fifty hens payable at Chriſtmas, at 1d. per hen, the days work of the copyholders, worth 10s. per annum, pleas and perquiſites of the court-baron, with court-leet, 10s. per ann. he likewiſe held the manor of Gately, and the moiety of that of Bale.

In the 16th of Edward III. ſir Edmund de Thorpe, lord of Aſhwelthorpe, held this manor in right of Joan, his wife, ſiſter and heireſs of Thomas Baynard; in this family it remained till Iſabel, daughter and coheireſs of ſir Edmund de Thorpe, (the laſt heir male of the family being killed in the wars of France, about the end of Henry V.) brought it by marriage to Philip Tilney, eſq. of Boſton, in Lincolnſhire, whoſe ſon, Frederick, left a daughter and heireſs, Elizabeth, who married ſir Humphry Bourchier, eldeſt ſon of John lord Berners, ſlain at Barnet-field on Eaſter-day, 1471, on the part of Edward IV. Sir John Bourchier, ſon and heir of ſir Humphry, inherited it as heir to his mother, and was ſummoned to parliament as lord Berners in the reign of Henry VII. and left by Catherine, his wife, daughter of John Howard, duke of Norfolk, at his death in 1532, two daughters and coheireſſes, Mary, who died without iſſue, and Jane, married to Edmund Knevet, eſq. ſerjeant-

ſerjeant-porter to Henry VIII. who had livery of this lordſhip in the 25th of that king; and in 1560, being a widow, gave then by will this manor to William, and that of Gately to Edmund Knevet, &c. her younger ſons, who both joined and ſold Colkirk and Gately to their nephew, ſir Thomas Knevet, of Aſhwelthorpe, who, with his eldeſt ſon, Thomas Knevet, eſq. conveyed them to Michael Hare, eſq. of Stow-Bardolph, on July 8, in the 33d of Elizabeth, 1591.

About this time, by a rental of this lordſhip, it appears that there were 275 acres of paſture ground incloſed, 247 of arable, 40 acres in copſwood, free-rents per ann. 58s. 6d. 246 acres of copyhold land, fine at the lord's pleaſure, 9l. 16s. 8d. rent barley per ann. 6 quarters, lacking half a buſhel, at 8s. the quarter, 47s. 6d. rent capons 17s. rent hens 5, 2s. 6d. with feed for 400 and a half of ſheep, in the ſhack from harveſt ended to the annunciation of our Lady next after, at 2d. per ſheep, 4l. 1s. the patronage of the parſonage, valued at 40l. per ann. *communibus annis*, common, or waſte ground, 40 acres, perquiſites of court, and leet, *communibus annis*, 3l. 6s. 8d.—*Item*, there are divers bondſmen regardant to the ſaid manor, and do yearly pay the chevage.

Michael Hare, eſq. aforeſaid, by his will, dated July 15, 1609, gives this lordſhip, and that of Gately, to his brother, Robert Hare, for life, and then to Nicholas Timperley, eſq. his nephew; and the ſaid Robert died ſeiſed November 2, in the 9th of James I. and Nicholas, his nephew, was then found to be the ſon and heir of Thomas Timperley, eſq. by Audrey, his wife, daughter of ſir Nicholas Hare, of Bruſyard, in Suffolk, and ſiſter of Michael and Robert Hare aforeſaid.

This

This Nicholas died January 1, 1623, and left by Ann, his wife, daughter and coheireſs of William Markham, eſq. of Oakley, in Northamptonſhire, Thomas, his ſon and heir, who ſucceeded him as lord of this town and Gately; he was afterwards a knight, and by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of John Shelley, eſq. of Suſſex, left two ſons, Michael, and Nicholas, which Nicholas died in 1658, and was buried here; alſo in the church lies buried William Timperley, who died in 1660, and Nicholas Timperley, eſq. who died September 24, 1662.

The laſt of this family who enjoyed this eſtate was ——— Timperley, eſq. who about the year 1721 ſold it to Henry Kelſal, eſq. of the treaſury, and having waſted moſt of his eſtates and fortunes, and being a Roman Catholic, went abroad, and lived in ſome convent. The preſent lord is the right hon. George lord viſcount Townſhend, baron of Lynn and Rainham.

The Timperleys deſcend from Thomas Timperley, eſq. of Bowdon, in Cheſhire, who removed from thence to Roydon, in Suffolk, in the reign of Henry VI.

The tenths were 2l. 6s. 8d. Deductions for the lands of the religious 4s. The temporalities of Walſingham priory in 1428 were valued at 1s. Fakenham-dam, (or Hempton) 2s. 4d. Norwich priory, in paſture, 12d. We alſo find 12d. per ann. paid to the fraternity (or preceptory) of Carbrooke.

The church is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and was a rectory, valued at thirty marks per ann. the preſent value is 10l.

There

There was formerly a vicar under the rector, who was preſented by the prior of Wayborne. On the tower is a ſmall but very conſpicuous ſpire, and hath five bells.

In 1346 all the altarage profits were aſſigned for the ſupport of the vicar, and all the lands wherewith the church was endowed, except the ſcite of the rectory, and three roods of land oppoſite to it, to the ſouth.

A manſion was alſo to be built within ſix years, at the charge of the convent of Wayborne, and liberty of fiſhing in the pool againſt the rectory; 40d. per ann. for wine at the altar; and the repair of the chancel, &c. to be in the convent.

On the north wall of the chancel is a black marble monument, with the arms of Timperley, and this motto:—*Prævide, provide, ne præveniare.—For William Timperley, who was killed by a piſtol burſting in his hand, May* 10, 1660.

And on the ſaid wall a mural monument of black and white marble, with the arms of Timperley;—*Nicholas Timperley, eſq. died September* 4, 1664. *Ann Barker, ſiſter to Nicholas, died May* 8, 1652.

Againſt the ſouth wall, on a mural monument, an hour-glaſs with wings, a pearl, and an eye with wings, and theſe verſes:

Lo Time!—Pearl!—Eye! *a rebus, which to thee*
Speaks what I whilom was, a Timperley.
Wing'd Time *is flown, ſo is the world from me,*
A glittering Pearl *whoſe gloſs is vanity.*

But

But th' Eye of hope is of a nobler flight,
To reach beyond thee (death) enjoy his ſight,
Who conquer'd thee, hence ſprings my hope, that I
Shall riſe the ſame, and more a Timperley.

Nicholas Timperley, ſon of ſir Thomas Timperley, knt. of Hintleſham, in Suffolk, died anno 1658.

Alſo a flat ſtone,—*In memory of Nicholas Barker, eſq. who died the 1ſt of January,* 1660,—with the arms of Barker.

Within the rails of the communion-table a grave-ſtone,—*In memory of Ann Jeſſop, wife of Mr. Jonathan Jeſſop, miniſter of Colkirk, daughter of John Hills, gent. and grandchild to Sir John Potts, baronet, who died Februa y* 28, 1659.

In the 12th of Edward III. the church was appropriated by Anthony Beck, biſhop of Norwich, to the prior and convent of Wayborne; and William Bateman, biſhop, his ſucceſſor, ordained in this manor, that the vicarage ſhould be endowed with all the fruits and profits belonging to the altarage, and all lands wherein the church was endowed, except the rectory, and three roods of land oppoſite to the rectory, on the ſouth ſide; the religious to build for the vicar a manſion-houſe, with offices and ſufficient outhouſes, within ſix years; in the mean time the vicar ſhall dwell in the rectory-houſe, on the penalty of 40s. to be paid by the religious to the high-altar of the church of Norwich, the grainge, barns, and one ſtable of the ſaid rectory, being excepted.

The right of fiſhing on the lake was allowed the vicar, and liberty of watering cattle in common to both; the vicar's portion limited at ten marks, that

of

of the religious at twenty, towards the paying of tenths and other dues; the reparations of the chancel, books, and veſtments, ſhall belong to the religious, the vicar to be at all charges in performing Divine ſervices, the religious paying to him 40d. per ann. dated March 4, 1346.

In 1411 ſir Edmund de Thorpe, knt. recovered the rectory from the priory of Wayborne, after they had poſſeſſed it eighty years, and has continued a rectory ever ſince.

In 1769 the Rev. Thomas Martin was preſented to Colkirk, conſolidated with Stibbard, in Gallow hundred, by lord viſcount Townſhend.

DILLINGTON was part of the lordſhip of Scarning, held by the Franſhams, and on the death of Jeffry de Franſham in 1414, his inheritance divided between his five ſiſters and coheireſſes; this came with Scarning to Alice, his ſecond, and to Agatha, his fifth ſiſter and coheireſs, and ſo to their poſterity, as may be there ſeen at large. Alſo the manor of Draytonhall, in Scarning, extended into this town, of which alſo ſee there.

The Rev. Mr. Parkin, in his continuation of Mr. Blomefield's *eſſay*, accounts for the abbey manors of Herringſhaw, and Dikewood, *in Dillington*, though no part of them lie therein, but belong principally to Wendling pariſh, to which we refer our readers.

We do not meet with any further account of Dillington, but imagine it to have been long ago annexed to Hoe chapel, conſolidated with the vicarage of Eaſt Dereham in 1533.—The *Index Villaris Norfolcienſis* has it "Dillington, *cum* Hoe." It lies about a mile

a mile north of Dereham, on the road to Litcham, and has a neat modern built houſe of Mr. John Daniels.

DUNHAM *Magna*, or GREAT DUNHAM, ſo called from its ſcite, *dun* ſignifying a hill, or riſing ground; it was at the ſurvey a beruite to the manor, or honor of Mileham, which William de Noiers held, or farmed, under the Conqueror, who ſeized on it on the deprivation of archbiſhop Stigand, who was lord in the reign of the Confeſſor, and there belonged to it the moiety of a market, and half an acre of land in Thetford, &c. the whole, including the manor af Mileham, and the beruite of Litcham, was valued in the time of king Edward at 30l. at the ſurvey at 60l. it was three leucas long, and one broad, and paid 20d. to a 20s. gelt, whoever may have it.

ARUNDEL'S FEE, or HARSICK'S MANOR. This was granted ſoon after to Alan ſon of Flaald, anceſtor of the Fitz-Alans, earls of Arundel.

Alice, widow of Eudo de Harſick, held here and in Southacre, in the reign of Henry III. one fee of the honor of Mileham, and ſir Roger Harſick held it under the earl of Arundel in the 3d of Edward I. and the moiety of a weekly market on Saturday, with the aſſize, and view of frank-pledge; and in the 2d of Edward II. John de Harſick had a charter of free-warren.

On the death of ſir Roger Harſick in 1454, who married Alice, daughter of Nicholas Witchingham, of Fiſhley, in Norfolk, eſq. it came to his two daughters and coheireſſes, Margaret, and Jane; and on a diviſion of the Harſicks eſtate, this was aſſigned to Jane, the youngeſt, who married Richard Dorward, eſq.

eſq. (third ſon of John Dorward, eſq. ſerjeant at law, and ſpeaker of the houſe of commons) by whom he had a daughter and ſole heireſs, Margaret, who was the wife of ſir John Wingfield, fourth ſon of ſir John Wingfield, of Letheringham, in Suffolk, and in her right was lord of this village, and dying in the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII. was buried in the chancel of Dunham church, as was his lady, in or about 1509.

Thomas Wingfield was their ſon and heir, who married Elizabeth, daughter of ſir Thomas Wodehouſe, of Kimberley, by whom he had two ſons, Roger, and John, who left by Ann, his wife, daughter of Thomas Townſhend, of Teſterton, a daughter and ſole heireſs, Ann, married to Thomas Athow, eſq. of Beacham-Well, ſerjeant at law; Roger, the elder brother, married Elizabeth, daughter of John Golding, of Belchamp St. Paul's, in Eſſex, and had a ſon, John, who died without iſſue. Roger, his father, conveyed by fine to Thomas Golding, gent. ſon of John Golding, gent. this manor of Harſicks, and the manor of Rous, in this town, in the 38th of Henry VIII. with other lands, &c. in Dunham *Magna* and *Parva*, and Eaſt Lexham; and in the 6th of Elizabeth ſir Thomas Golding, knt. and Henry Golding, eſq. conveyed to Nicholas and William Mynns the aforeſaid two manors.

In 1572 Andrew Clerk preſented as lord, and Chriſtian, his wife. After this, in the reign of James I. Henry Baſtard, gent. was lord, and preſented to this church in 1599, and in 1616; and in 1660 Mary, widow of Thomas Hogan, eſq. His ſon, Thomas Hogan, eſq. was lord in 1716, and by his wife, a daughter of Matthew Heliot, gent. of Litcham,

Litcham, had Thomas, his ſon and heir, a lunatic, living in 1760.

Rous's Manor was part of the lord Bardolph's manor of Litcham, which extended into this town, and Eaſt Lexham, and was held by Richard Rous in the reign of Henry III. and by Alan, his ſon, in the 15th of Edward I. who with Jordan Foliot claimed a moiety of a weekly market on Saturday, with the Harſicks, who had the other moiety.

From the Rous's it came to the Lexhams, and after to the Mundefords, by marriage of the heireſs of de Lexham; and the heirs of Oſbert Mundeford, in the 4th of Henry IV. held the manor of Rous, in Dunham, and Eaſt Lexham, by half a fee.

William de Rothing, who had a lordſhip in Wellingham of lord Baynard's fee, had alſo a lordſhip belonging to the ſame fee in this town, and claimed in the 15th of Edward I. a weekly market in Dunham *Magna*, on Wedneſday, and a fair yearly on the vigil, the day, and day after St. Margaret.

The earl Warren's manor, or honor of Greſſinghall, extended alſo into this town. Wimerus, lord of Greſſinghall, gave the patronage of the church to Caſtle Acre priory; this was afterwards held by the Stuteviles, Foliots, Haſtings, &c.

At the ſurvey Ralph de Tony had one ſoc-man, who held thirty acres and a half of land under Harold in the time of king Edward, with four borderers, and one carucate; this was valued under his capital manor of Necton.

It

It was part of Sparham-hall, in Necton, and was called Corbet's, or Churchman's manor, and held by ſir John le Briſton in the 3d of Edward I. and by Ralph Churchman in the time of Richard II. and afterwards by the Cockets, in the 1ſt of Edward VI. In 1633 Henry Beck purchaſed it of Oſbert Prat.

The temporalities of Caſtle Acre priory were, in 1428, 4s. 4d.—Weſtacre, 12d.—Langley priory, 4s. 2d.—Walſingham priory, 8d.

In the 3d of Elizabeth, September 15, lands, called Walſingham Acre, and Walſingham, two acres in the tenure of Henry Ruſt, were granted to ſir Edward Warner, and Ralph Shelton, with lands belonging to Langley abbey, in the tenure of Thomas Wingfield.

In the 5th and 6th of Philip and Mary ſir George Howard, knt. had a grant of twenty-one acres of land in this town, and Eaſt Lexham, with liberty of a foldage, in the tenure of ſir Nicholas L'Eſtrange, lately belonging to Magdalen chapel, in Gaywood, by Lynn.

Richard Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel, gave lands to that chapel, or hoſpital, in the reign of Edward I. in this town, and Eaſt Lexham, and ſir Eudo Harſick gave them lands and a fold-courſe for 250 ſheep.

From ancient writings it appears that there were two churches in this town, that of St. Mary, and St. Andrew, and inſtitutions into both to the year 1491.

Wimer, lord of Greſſenhall, *dapifer* to the firſt earl Warren, is ſaid to have given to the priory of

Caſtle Acre the church of Dunham *Magna*; but it is not expreſſed which church, probably that of St. Andrew, Hervey Canis giving to the ſaid priory the church of St. Mary of Dunham *Magna*, with the advowſon, and confirmed to the ſaid priory all the donations of his predeceſſors, and five acres at Racheneſs, with part of his meadow at Sudacre, near to their court from the outward ditch, which joins to the meadow of the monks, ſtraitways to the great water *s. d.*

Sometimes this church of St. Mary is called a chapel, and Eborard biſhop of Norwich, in the reign of Henry I. is ſaid to have confirmed the church of Dunham, with the chapel of St. Mary, to the aforeſaid priory; and John de Oxford, biſhop of Norwich, in the time of Henry II. confirmed alſo the churches of St. Andrew, and St. Mary, or Dunham-market, at the preſentation of the prior and convent of Caſtle Acre.

Theſe two churches, of St. Andrew and St. Mary, were ſtanding probably in 1518, though in the inſtitution books of Norwich mention is made only of St. Mary, into which the rectors were inſtituted then, and that only appears to be valued in the king's books.

In 1522, February 6, ſentence was given for the right of the rector of the churches of St. Mary and St. Andrew, of Dunham *Magna*, to take tithes of thirteen acres of land, called Penton's.

The ancient value of the rectory of Dunham St. Mary was twelve marks, and the prior of Sporle had a penſion out of it of 13*s.* 4*d.* In the 15th of Henry VI. Joan, queen dowager of England, wife

of

of Henry IV. died ſeiſed of it, being an *alien* priory diſſolved. The preſent value is 12l. 1s. 10d. ob. and the tenths of the town were 7l. 18s.—Deduct 1l.

On the diſſolution of religious houſes Thomas prior of Caſtle Acre conveyed the patronage to Henry VIII. in his 29th year; and on December 22, in the ſaid year, the king granted it to Thomas duke of Norfolk.

In 1752 the Rev. John Arnham was preſented to the rectory of Great Dunham by the crown, by reaſon of the lunacy of Thomas Hogan, gent. patron.

In the parlor of Dunham-hall were the following arms formerly in the glaſs:—Wingfield impaling Bovile; Wingfield and Bovile, quarterly, impaling Glanvile; Wingfield impaling Fitz-Lewes; Wingfield impaling Townſend; Waldgrave and Bacon; Waldgrave and Athow; Athow and Curſon; Dorward impaling Coggeſhall; Fincham impaling Stead; Berry; Walpole impaling Shaw, Harſick, and Caily; Robſert.

In the parlor chamber are the arms of Howard duke of Norfolk quartering Brotherton, the earl Warren and Mowbray.

In the hall, Athow impaling Thoreſby; Athow and Curſon quarterly, impaling Jenniſon.

The church is built in a conventual form, with a tower between the nave and chancel, which is thatched, but the nave is leaded.

In the chancel is a grave-ſtone,—*In memory of Henry Baſtard, gent. lord of this manor, who died Auguſt* 23, 1624, *ætat.* 62 *and* 11 *months*,—with his arms.

DUNHAM *Parva*, or LITTLE DUNHAM. Of this town we meet with no account in the book of Doomſday, it being part of the king's manor of Sporle, and farmed of him by Godric, and ſo is accounted for under Sporle: it remained royal demeſnes till Henry I. granted it, together with Sporle, to Baldwin de Boſco, or Bois, who on the marriage of his daughter and coheireſs, Hildeburgh, granted it to Henry de Vere, and he granted it to ſir Ralph de Briſton.

In the 5th of Henry III. Alianore, widow of Reginald de Dunham, poſſeſſed lands here. This family held the lordſhip under the Briſtons. John de Dunham held a quarter of a fee here, and in Beeſton; and in the 15th of Edward I. claimed the aſſize of his tenants, waif, and other royal privileges in this town.

John de Dunham, by fine levied, ſettled it on ſir John de Briſton, with all its ſervices and rents. Sir John was a parliamentary baron in the 29th of that king, and in the 33d one of the juſtices of trial-baſton, whoſe ſon, John, died ſeiſed in 1311, leaving Maud his ſiſter and heireſs, the wife of ſir Richard de la River, of Ongar, in Eſſex, who became lord in her right, and of Sporle, and died in the 10th of Edward III. leaving Maud his widow.

Thomas de Batesford preſented to this church in 1338, in right of Maud aforeſaid, then his wife.

In

In the 49th of Edward III. ſir Robert Swillington, knt. and John Garleke, and their wives, conveyed this lordſhip to ſir Robert Corbet, ſenior, whoſe wife alſo was daughter and coheireſs of ſir Richard de la River.

Sir Robert Corbet, jun. was alſo a knight, and lord of this town, and of Aſſington, in Suffolk, who dying without iſſue male, in 1438, left Sybill, his daughter and heireſs, who married John Greville, eſq. of Glouceſterſhire, and dying without iſſue in the 23d of Henry VI. Guy Corbet, her uncle, became lord of this town, and Aſſington, and by Joan, his wife, daughter of ſir Edmund Thorpe, the elder, of Aſhwelthorpe, had ſir Robert Corbet, his ſon and heir, who married Elizabeth, daughter of —— Dorward, of Rocking, in Eſſex, who ſettled this lordſhip in the 33d of the ſaid king on ſir John Forteſcue, knt. lord chief juſtice of the King's-bench, and John Priſot, chief juſtice of the Common-pleas.

This ſir Robert was father of Robert Corbet, eſq. who married Maud, daughter of the aforeſaid ſir John Forteſcue; and afterwards married (during the ſaid Maud, his firſt wife's life, forſaking her) Lettice, daughter of John Shirewood, of Coventry, and left iſſue by her, Robert and Alice, his firſt wife, Maud, ſurviving him, from whom he never was divorced; upon this Roger Corbet, eſq. his brother, ſecond ſon of ſir Robert aforeſaid, made an entry into his lands as next and legal heir; but Lettice aforeſaid having married —— Talboys, a ſervant to Thomas Rotherham, archbiſhop of York and chancellor of England, Roger ſued him in the ſpiritual court of Canterbury, and Talboys procuring a prohibition, Roger appealed to Rome, and a writ was directed by Rotheram, to Roger, of *Ne exeat regnum;* upon this Roger was

laid up in the counter two years, but being enlarged in the laſt year of Edward IV. died preſently after.

It appears that Maud, firſt wife, had a jointure of twenty marks per ann. out of this manor: ſhe retired, and lived in the nunnery of Hellenſtow, in Bedfordſhire, and died there.

In the 12th year of Edward IV. during the ſuits above-mentioned, Margaret Corbet, ſiſter of ſir Robert Corbet, deceaſed, father of Robert and Roger, died, having ſold this lordſhip to John Coket, ſen. In 1479 the ſaid John preſented to this church, and Thomas Coket, eſq. was lord and patron in 1511. Paſſing through other families it came from Philip Audley to ſir Edward Coke, who was lord in 1601. Sir Edward, by deed dated November 4, in the 15th of James I. ſettled it, with Thornham-biſhop's, in Norfolk, and Elmham, &c. on Frances, his daughter, fourth wife of ſir John Villiers, afterwards viſcount Purbeck, after his and his wife's death, and ſhe preſented in 1640. On her death it came to Robert Danvers, eſq. ſon of lord viſcount Purbeck aforeſaid, by his ſecond wife, Elizabeth, daughter of ſir William Slingſby, of Kippax, in Yorkſhire, knt. of whom ſhe was privately delivered, and he was for a long time called Robert Wright.

This Robert taking to wife the daughter and heireſs of ſir John Danvers, one of thoſe who found Charles I. guilty, obtained a patent from Oliver Cromwell to change his name to Danvers, and died ſeiſed of this lordſhip February 18, 1657, but not without iſſue, as Dugdale ſays.

In 1682 ſir William Rawſtern, knt. preſented as lord; and in 1692 John Turner is ſaid to have bought

bought it of Francis Drury; but in 1708 Thomas Rogers, eſq. of Cley by the Sea, poſſeſſed it, and preſented to the church, and Thomas Rogers, eſq. alderman of Norwich, is the preſent lord.

The manor once poſſeſſed by the Turners was ſold by ſir John Turner to Mr. Backler; the ſcite is in Great Dunham manor, Rogers' is in Little Dunham, and does not ſeem to have belonged to the Turners, unleſs the Turners had two manors.

The tenths of the town were 3l. 16s. 11d.—Deduct 1l.—The honor, or manor of Hockering, extended into this town.

In the 19th of Edward I. Godfrey de Beaumont held here, in Scarning, &c. four fees of the aforeſaid honor; and in the 9th of Edward II. Walter de Langton, and Joan Beaumont, held lands in this town, Scarning, and Franſham, by four fees, of John le Marſhall.

The church is a rectory, dedicated to St. Margaret; the old value was eighteen marks; the preſent value is 9l. 15s. 11d. ob. and is diſcharged. In 1431 we find a legacy to the new building of the tower. In the 18th of Edward I. ſir John de Briſton had the patronage of it; and in 1308 ſir John de Dunham, knight.

In 1748 the Rev. Charles Allen was preſented to the rectory of Little Dunham by the late Thomas Rogers, eſq. alderman of Norwich.

ELMHAM, called NORTH ELMHAM, in reſpect of South Elmham, in Suffolk; it is ſeated on the ſouth-weſt ſide of the river Wenſum, and alſo has a ſmall

brook, which running from the park, empties itſelf in the ſaid river, and not the Hier, as ſome improperly term it.

In the ſurvey it is wrote Elmenham; *el*, in the Britiſh tongue beſpeaks water, and *main*, or *menna*, little; of this kind is Elmſwell, in Suffolk, Elmſtead, and Elmley, in Kent, and Glouceſterſhire, &c.—*Parkin.*

At the ſurvey, when the ſeat of the biſhop was at Thetford, it was found to be in the ſee, and was held by biſhop Ailmar in the time of the Confeſſor for a lordſhip, when there belonged to it eight carucates of land, forty-one villains, ſixty-three borderers, ſix ſervi, twenty-four acres of meadow, four carucates in demeſne, and ſixteen amongſt the tenants, or men, paunage for 1000 ſwine, four mills, 3 runci, &c. 300 ſheep, thirty-five goats, and thirty-four ſoc-men, with a carucate of land.

Stigand had the ſoc in the time of king Edward, and it was at the ſurvey in the lord of Mileham, and there belonged to it three carucates, four acres of meadow, &c. and a mill.

Beetley was a beruite, or ſmall manor, belonging to it, and valued with it. In this manor of Elmham there was then a church, endowed with ſixty acres, and one carucate, valued at 5s. 4d. per ann.

In the time of king Edward the whole was 10l. per ann. at the ſurvey 32l. it was one leuca long, and half a leuca broad, and paid 20d. gelt.

This place is ſuppoſed to have been the ſeat of a Flamen in the time of the Romans, and at the time of the converſion of the Eaſt Angles, by Fœlix, the biſhop

biſhop, was held by him (their firſt biſhop) by the grant of king Sigebert on his death, in 647; when Biſus, the fourth biſhop of the Eaſt Angles, about 673, divided his dioceſe, being too large, one biſhop was appointed to reſide at North Elmham, to whom the juriſdiction of Norfolk was aſſigned, and the other at Dunwich, with the juriſdiction of Suffolk.

Theſe two ſees were again united about 870, and Wildred, who was then biſhop, reſided at North Elmham, and ſo remained till removed to Thetford, by Herfaſt the biſhop, in 1075, and thence to Norwich, by biſhop Herbert, in 1094; but the biſhops of Norwich after reſided here in their manor-houſe, it being the head of his barony (as ſome have ſaid) at that time.

Biſhop Turbus, who lived in the reign of king Stephen, confirmed to the priory all former grants of his predeceſſors, with the church of this town, and the fair.

In the 7th of Richard I. the ſheriff of Norfolk paid 18d. per ann. to the biſhop for his liberty of Elmham-madoe.—*Hiſtory of the Exchequer*, p. 560.

John de Grey, biſhop in the time of king John, confirmed to them the liberty of feeding their cattle every where with his, (excepting his park) freely, not paying for their herbage, with paunage for their ſwine, and to dig turf for their own uſe.

Pandolf, biſhop of Norwich, and the pope's legate, after he had excommunicated king John and his kingdom, retired here.

William

William de Raleigh, biſhop, about 1240, was impleaded with Henry de Edlingthorpe, &c. for throwing down unjuſtly the dam of Jeffrey de Hindringham, and Ricolda, his wife, in this town and Guiſt, to their damage; but on proof that Jeffrey had made the banks of his pool too high, he was amerced in the biſhop's court here.

Walter de Suffield, biſhop, had a charter of free-warren in this manor in the 35th of Henry III. and in the 14th of Edward I. the biſhop of Norwich had frank-pledge, a gallows, tumbrel, ſoc and ſac, thol and them, infangthef and outfangthef, return of writs, judgment of duels, trial ordeal by fire or water, goods of felons and fugitives, a coroner within this manor, liberties of all pleas and aſſize to be determined by juſtices on the ſpot to be ſent to this town, and tried there; and ſeveral precedents of juſtices-itinerant, who were ſent and tried cauſes here, are mentioned on record.

In the 11th year of Richard II. Henry Spencer, biſhop, had a licence to embattle and make a caſtle of his manor-houſe, when he ſeems to have rebuilt it, which is now entirely demoliſhed; the ſcite of it was on a grand artificial hill, or mount, on a riſing ground, ſurrounded with a great and deep entrenchment, (containing about five acres) formerly, no doubt, full of water, to which belonged a noble demeſne, and a park. That it was always a place of ſtrength, or caſtle, is highly probable, moſt of the biſhops in ancient days having caſtles for their ſeats. The inner keep* was alſo encompaſſed with a deep ditch,

* The ruins are overgrown with thorns; heaps of ſtones and rubbiſh lie here. The entrance into this caſtle ſeems to have been on the eaſt ſide, and ſtood about 100 yards north of the church.

ditch, containing within it two acres, joining ſouth, and in the ſouth-weſt part of which it ſtood, and had a deep well.

In this ſtate it continued till on the exchange of lands between Henry VIII. and biſhop Nix this manor, &c. was veſted in that king by act of parliament, February 4, in the 27th of his reign.

On July 14, in his 28th year, he granted it, with the advowſon of the vicarage, and the manor of Beetley, to Thomas lord Cromwell; and on July 14, in his 30th year, he granted them to him and his heirs general.

This Thomas Cromwell was his principal agent in diſſolving the monaſteries; created lord Cromwell, of Oakham, in Rutlandſhire, July 9, in the 28th year of the ſaid king; and April 17, in the 31ſt of Henry VIII. earl of Eſſex; but on July 24, in the following year, was beheaded.

By a daughter (as ſome ſay) of ——— Williams, gent. of Wales, he left Gregory, his ſon and heir; but Dugdale takes that to be a miſtake.

In a pedigree that we have, he is ſaid to have married Elizabeth, the daughter and coheireſs of John Prior, (widow of Thomas Williams) by Iſabel, his wife, daughter of Richard lord Talbot.

In this pedigree Thomas earl of Eſſex is ſaid to be the ſon of Walter Cromwell, of Oakham, in Rutlandſhire, from which town he took his title, (before he had the grant of the caſtle and manor there) as Dugdale, &c. aſſert, in the 28th of Henry VIII. yet it appears that in the acts of parliament in the 31ſt of

of that king, chap. 3, he is called baron of Wimbledon, in Surrey, and *not* of Oakham.

Gregory, ſon and heir of Gregory Cromwell, about five months after his father's death was created a baron of England, by the title of lord Cromwell, but not diſtinguiſhed by any place, and was lord of this manor. By Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of ſir John Seymour, of Wolfs-hall, in Wiltſhire, ſiſter to Edward Seymour, duke of Somerſet, and widow of ſir Anthony Oughtred, he left at his death, in the 5th of Edward VI. Henry, his ſon and heir, who married Mary, daughter of John Pawlet, marquis of Wincheſter, and dying November 20, 1592, the jury, on an inquiſition taken *poſt mortem*, find Edward to be his ſon and heir, and that Thomas earl of Eſſex, his grandfather, by deed, dated December 26, in the 30th of Henry VIII. entailed this manor, with that of Beetley, &c. Oakham, &c. in Rutlandſhire, on Gregory, his ſon.

Edward lord Cromwell waſted (as ſir Henry Spelman obſerves) his whole inheritance almoſt in England, and changed ſome that remained with the earl of Devonſhire; but this manor was ſold by him to Edward Coke, eſq. (afterwards lord chief juſtice, &c.) who was lord in the 40th of Elizabeth; and in the 15th of James I. was ſettled with others (as is ſaid) on Frances, his daughter, married to ſir John Villiers, knt. afterwards lord viſcount Purbeck.

In the year 1631 ſir Edward Coke preſented to this church. This Edward lord Cromwell removed into Ireland, and was there buried, leaving Thomas lord Cromwell his ſon and heir, (by Frances, his wife, daughter of William Rugge, eſq. of Felmingham, in Norfolk)

Norfolk) who was created viſcount Lecale, and earl of Ardglaſs, in Ireland.

In 1659 John Coke, eſq. preſented to this vicarage, and at that time he was charged at 120l. per annum for his park in his own hands, and for part of his eſtate, held by Nathaniel Ducket, 30l. per annum; for that held by John Spooner 90l. per annum; for that held by Roſe Crome 50l. per annum; by Robert Haſe 10l. per annum; by Henry Luſhers 80l. and Joſeph Iſaac 10l. per annum.

Afterwards the eſtate here was mortgaged (the park excepted) to Hugh Audley, of the Inner Temple, London, eſq. on whoſe death it came, with the reſt of his perſonal eſtate, to his executors, William Harvey, eſq. &c. and ſo to Robert Harvey, of Low-Layton, in Eſſex, eſq. ſon of the aforeſaid William, who preſented in 1680, and John Harvey, eſq. in 1704.

Richard Warner, eſq. purchaſed the manor and patronage of the vicarage of the Harveys, and preſented in 1723, and 1741; he built an agreeable new manor-houſe, &c. and died June 1, 1757, aged 89, leaving his eſtate to his daughters and coheireſſes; Mary, the eldeſt, married Chriſtopher Mills, eſq. of Nackington, in Kent, and Richard Mills, eſq. his ſon and heir, is the preſent lord and patron.

Nowers's Manor took its name from a family ancient lords of it, and was granted from the capital manor by ſome biſhop of Norwich. Milo de Noiers (deſcended from William de Noiers, moſt likely a great favorite of William the Conqueror) was lord about the year 1180, when the prior of Norwich

Norwich complained that certain tithes due from his demeſnes were refuſed to be paid to him, which ſir Simon de Noiers, ſon of Milo, had given, (viz. two garbs of his tithe) to the church of the Holy Trinity of Norwich, about 1130, and theſe tithes were ceded to the prior.

In the 7th of Edward II. Richard de Colcburne, of Eaſt Dereham, and Margaret, his wife, conveyed to ſir William de Hackford this manor. Sir William left two daughters and coheireſſes; Joan, married ſir John Seckford; and Elizabeth, Henry de Elmham.

In the 6th of Edward III. ſir John Seckford conveyed to Henry de Elmham lands in this town, Calthorpe, and Bodham, which Margaret, widow of ſir William de Hackford, held for life. Henry was probably father of ſir William Elmham, who died in the 4th year of Henry IV. and was buried in the abbey of Bury.

" Sir William was accuſed in parliament in the 7th of Richard II. and condemned for having received of the king's enemies in France 3400 franks of gold *for making peace with them**, whilſt in the army commanded by Spencer, biſhop of Norwich, &c. and the king wrote to the ſheriff of Norfolk to levy the ſame on the lands and goods of ſir William, to arreſt him, and bring him before the king and council, to be impriſoned till he ſhould ſatisfy him by a fine and ranſom; but had after a pardon in the ſaid year."

In

* *O tempora! O mores!*

In the 16th of Edward IV. Robert Bog, of Worſtead, granted to Henry Smith, &c. the lordſhip of Noiers, from the heirs of his wife.

Roger Martin, of Long Melford, in Suffolk, eſq. in the 9th of Elizabeth, November 29, granted to Roger Bozoun, eſq. of Study, in Holt hundred, the manor and demeſnes of Nowers, *alias* Hedges, Dunham's, Bower's, and Smith's; and Roger Bozoun, June 1, in the ſaid year, ſold it to Richard Franklyn, of North Erpingham, butcher. In the 40th of the ſaid queen Edward Coke, eſq. then attorney general, was lord of it, and ſo it was united to the capital manor, as it now remains.—The tenths of the town were 7l. 10s. Deducted 13s. 4d.

In this town lived the ancient family of the Taverners; Ralph le Taverner held lands here in the year 1272; John Taverner ſignalized himſelf at the battle of Agincourt, October 25, 1415, and Henry, his elder brother, was a counſellor at Law, and had lands here at his death, in the 6th of Edward IV. From this family the Taverners of Eſſex, Oxfordſhire, and Bedfordſhire, are deſcended.

Thomas, *alias* James Taverner, of North Elmham, married Grace, daughter and heireſs of John Ruſſel, of Wighton, in North Greenhoe hundred, relict of Edmund Bedingfield, eſq. and was living in the 18th of Elizabeth, and had by her Thomas Taverner, living in the year 1636, whoſe wife, Ann, ſurvived him, and was living in 1659; ſhe was then taxed to the militia rate for lands here at 80l. per annum.

Charles

Charles Taverner, gent. was buried here in 1683, and Ann, his wife, in 1682, and Charles Taverner, gent. his ſon, in 1682.

Here is a fair kept annually, on the annunciation of the bleſſed Virgin, (April 5, 1781) and the profits of it are ſaid to have been given to the priory of Norwich, by Herbert the biſhop.

In a cloſe, called Broom-cloſe, about half a mile, or more, from the town, lying on the weſt ſide of the road from Elmham to Beetley, of a dry ſandy, or gravelly ſoil, on a riſing ground, a river running in the valley, have been found many urns of a coarſe earth, the work rough and uneven, but generally well burnt, ſome of them indented, and ſome plain, ſome of a blue, and ſome of a yellow colour, without any covers; the ſize various, ſome holding a quart, ſome two or three quarts, or a gallon, and very tender (as moſt urns are) when firſt expoſed to the air; ſome are found very near the ſurface of the earth, others two or three ſpit deep, containing many ſmall pieces of bones, turned black with burning, others full of aſhes, with ſome pieces of coarſe glaſs run, and ſticking to the bones, and in the aſhes; ſome with pieces of braſs melted, and unmelted, alſo with pieces of iron, ſo decayed with ruſt, that their figure, or uſe, does not appear; ſome with ſmall knives eat up with ruſt, alſo with ſmall pincers, or nippers, commonly of braſs, perfect and good, which demonſtrates the great antiquity of the place.

A penknife found in one about four inches and a half long, with a wrought handle.—A bodkin of the ſame ſize.—A dagger about one foot long, with a wrought handle, hilt, and bar, found in a ditch.—A green glaſs in form of a cone, about four inches long

long, and three inches diameter at the bottom, and one at the top, probably a lacrymatory, found in an urn.

In February, 1711, ſome laborers repairing the fence on the ſouth ſide of this cloſe, or in raiſing a new ditch, dug up about thirty urns, but found little valuable or curious in them, only aſhes and duſt; this induced other perſons to make further trial, who found ſeveral thereabouts.

One perſon employed in the ſearch is ſaid to have taken up about 120, yet the compaſs of the ground that was thus turned up did not exceed a rood of ground; ſome coins however have been found here.

In a piece of ground, about two furlongs ſouth of the town, in the road to Eaſt Dereham, (where old wells and foundations of houſes are to be ſeen) a countryman digging to ſow carrots, about ſixty years paſt, is ſaid to have dug up the quantity of a pint and a half.

Theſe ſilver ones were found in this laſt mentioned place:——VESPATIANVS. AVG. the reverſe the image of the goddeſs Peace, ſeated, with an olive branch in her right hand.

CÆSAR. DIVI. F. DOMITIANVS. COSS. VIII. —The reverſe—PRINCEPS. JVVENTVTIS.

DIVA FAVSTINA.—Reverſe,—ſtanding as a goddeſs, with a wand in her right hand.

LVCILLA. AVGVSTA. ANTONINI. AVGVSTI. FILIA.—Reverſe,—CONCORDIA, ſeated.—Alſo one with a G.

CONSTANTIVS. NOB. CÆSAR.—Reverſe,—Roman trophies between two ſoldires, GLORIA. EXERCITVS. This is of braſs.

Here was alſo found a ſilver Roman ring, the impreſs an eagle, with a thunder-bolt in his beak.—Theſe coins prove this to have been a Roman ſtation.

Dr. Plot, in his Hiſtory of Staffordſhire, obſerves, "that neither the Saxons, or Danes, after their arrival into this iſland, ever burned their dead, whatever they might do before; and in his Hiſtory of Oxfordſhire, that they made their works ſo indiſtinguiſhable from the Romans, (otherwiſe than by the Roman money found under them) that they can ſcarce be known aſunder; ſo that whatever of their fortifications, called Barrows, abuſively, have no money found near them, muſt be concluded, (as he thinks) either Saxon, or Daniſh; Saxon, if ſquare; Daniſh, if round; the firſt, called Falkmotes, places of meeting on approach of an enemy, or the hundred meeting courts, or Danes raths."

But that the Danes did anciently burn before they invaded England, appears from Odinus, an ancient Daniſh king, who enjoined the dead to be burned, and ordered his own domeſtics to burn him when dead; and ſo they continued for a long time after, and it ſeems not to be diſcontinued till the time of Charles the Great, the emperor, about the year 800, who converting many heathens to the Chriſtian faith, and being ſtiled "the moſt Chriſtian king," forbad this practice, and that if any one ſhould burn the bodies of the dead, he ſhould be put to death for ſo doing.

The

The Saxons alſo (after the Daniſh manner) in Germany, uſed to burn their dead, and to erect a tumulus over their burnt aſhes; and the ſaid emperor commanded the bodies of Chriſtian Saxons to be brought to the church-yard, and not to the tumuli of the Pagan-Saxons; yet we are perſuaded, that this practice was uſed at this time in England, and after, to the days of king Alfred.

It appears that here was in the Conqueror's, and king Edward's time, a church, well endowed with fifty acres and a carucate of land. Herbert biſhop of Norwich is ſaid to have new built it in the reign of William II. being ſo enjoined by the pope, for his ſimony, and appropriated the rectory of this church to the priory of Norwich, founded by him, and held by the late Richard Warner, eſq. of the dean and chapter of Norwich.

In the 3d year of the pontificate of William de Raleigh the vicar's portion was ſettled, and a houſe was granted to him by the church, on the weſt ſide, with ten acres of freehold arable land, by the conſent and agreement of Simon the prior and convent of Norwich, with all offerings, oblations, and ſmall tithes, and of peaſe and beans in the pariſh; alſo all the tithes, as well great as ſmall, iſſuing out of 500 acres of land plowed, and from the freehold which the prior and convent held in demeſne at the time of the taxation of the vicarage; alſo all the great and ſmall tithes iſſuing out of nine acres of arable land in divers pieces, with all the tithe of hay, turf, and the mills.

A diſpute ariſing in 1277 between the prior and convent, who had the rectory, and Robert, then vicar, concerning the repair of the chancel, and the orna-

ments thereof, as well within as without, it was determined by the biſhop of Norwich, "that conſidering how amply it was endowed, it ſhould be repaired by the vicar;" dated at Thorpe, by Norwich, the 11th of October, 1277.

The appropriated rectory was taxed at thirty marks before the diſſolution, and the vicarage at fifteen marks, and was not viſited by the archdeacon, &c. being then the biſhop's manor. The preſent value of the vicarage is 13l. 14s. 11d.

The vicars were collated to the vicarage by the biſhop of Norwich, till the exchange with Henry VIII.

In 1741 Thomas Gregory was preſented by Richard Warner, eſq. and in 1777 the Rev. Thomas Herring was preſented to the vicarage of North Elmham by Richard Milles, eſq. the preſent worthy lord and patron, who was repreſentative for the city of Canterbury in the two laſt parliaments.

Here was a church built new by biſhop Herbert, but the preſent does not appear to be of that antiquity; it is a large regular pile, conſiſting of a middle, north and ſouth aile, ſupported by ſix pillars on each ſide, forming ſeven arches on each ſide, with a chancel, all covered with lead; it is dedicated to the bleſſed Virgin Mary.

On the belfry are the arms of Richard Warner, eſq. —Warner and Whitehall, quarterly, impaling Haſtings and Lombe.

At the weſt end ſtands a lofty four-ſquare tower, with a ſhaft, or ſmall ſpire, covered with lead, with five bells, and a clock.

On

On the pavement are grave-ſtones,—*In memory of Edward Harvey, and Philippa, his wife; he died in* 1685, *aged* 48; *ſhe in* 1704, *aged* 64.

One,—*In memory of Amy, wife of John Spooner, who died in* 1677, *aged* 72.

Hic jacet Tho. Smith, paſtor hujus eccleſiæ, qui obt. 7 Sept. 1631.

John Read, vicar, obt. March 11, 1703.

Hic jacet Gul. Turner, legis peritus, vir invicti laboris et induſtriæ, certavit enim cum loquentis lingua, ſcribentis manu, et ex utriſq; ampliſſimum cepit fructum, favente numine mirum in modum ditatus obt. 13 *id. Jan. anno ætat.* 45, *abi lector et diſce Deum omnia rendere laboribus.*

In memory of Charles Turner, ſenior, gent. and Elizabeth, his wife; he died in 1681, *aged* 83; *ſhe in* 1683, *aged* 79.

In the eaſt window are the arms of biſhop Spencer, and ſir Edward Coke.

In the veſtry, or chapel, on the ſouth ſide, a grave-ſtone, with the arms of Taverner,—*In memory of Ann, daughter of Charles Taverner, gent. and wife of William Harvey, gent. lineally deſcended from the ancient family of the Taverners, of North Elmham, who died March* 15, 1712, *aged* 32.

On a grey marble,—*Orate p. a'i'a. Johan. Fyttcher, cuj.* &c.

In the eaſt window the arms of the priory, now the deanry of Norwich, argent, a croſs, ſable; alſo a

grave-ſtone,—*In memory of Barthol. Snetting, ſenior, gent. who died January* 12, 1682, *aged* 61.

At the eaſt end of the ſouth aile hangs an atchievement, Veyſie impaling Crowe. The height of the tower, with its lantern and weather-cock, is 119 feet; length of the church 157 feet; breadth from out to out 66 feet*.

Simon Dethick, of North Elmham, gent. by his will, dated January 10, 1542, died ſeiſed of lands here, in Beetley, Bittering, Eaſt Dereham, and Hoe, and was buried in the chapel of St. James in this church.

The town of Elmham lies on the road from eaſt Dereham, five miles; to Holt, thirteen; and cloſe north of the road from Lynn-Regis, by Litcham, twenty-four miles; to Norwich, 17. The church, caſtle, and principal part of the village, are ſituated on an eminence, riſing from the river Wenſum; and Mr. Milles' ſeat, which ſtands a little weſtward, is finely environ'd by a park, many beautiful plantations, water, and other objects of uſe and ornament. The ancient park of North Elmham lies near Briſley, being the property of Thomas William Coke, eſq. of Holkham, and is well ſtocked with deer.

FRANSHAM *Magna*, or GREAT FRANSHAM, called Fraudeſham in Doomſday-book, and was then the lordſhip

* A north view of this church was publiſhed in Mr. Parkin's continuation of an "Eſſay towards a Hiſtory of Norfolk," at the bottom of which is the following note: "Where, within one hundred yards north, ſtood the ancient ſeat of the biſhop of Norwich, now demoliſhed: this place is famous for the many urns dug in ſeveral places in the ſaid pariſh, in the lands of Mr. John Taverner Harvey, where, it is ſaid, remains many undug."

lordſhip of William earl Warren. In king Edward's reign it was held by eleven free-men, of whom the predeceſſor of Fedric had the protection only, and afterwards Fedric was lord, who was ejected, and Gilbert then held it under William earl Warren, valued at 30s.

" *Frau*, in the Britiſh tongue, is *flour lenis*, a gentle run of Water; hence Franſton, and Frameſden, in Suffolk, Frenge, in Norfolk, Frekenham, &c. Frau is the name of a river in Wales."—*Parkin.*

Giſlebert, or Gilbert, before-mentioned, ſeems to be the anceſtor of the ancient family of Franſham, lords of this town.

In the reign of Richard I. and Henry III. a family of the name of Franſham had an intereſt here; and ſir Gilbert de Franſham, knt. confirmed by deed, without date, to the priory of Caſtle Acre, all the lands and tenements which they had of the gift of Thomas de Franſham.

In the 52d of Henry III. on the foundation of Wendling abbey, Gilbert de Franſham was then lord, and gave his conſent to the ſettling of lands belonging to his fee, and alſo was preſent.

In the 3d of Edward I. ſir William de Franſham was lord, and had the aſſize of bread and beer, and paid to the ſheriff of Norfolk for a piece of arable land, *(pro cultura)* called Pilewood, 12d. per annum quit-rent, due from the conqueſt. This William was the king's ſub-eſcheator in his 20th year; and in 1323 Gilbert, his ſon, preſented to the rectory of this church.

Jeffrey de Franſham, eſq. lord of this town, died without iſſue in 1414; and his five ſiſters and coheireſſes were, Alianore, Alice, Agnes, Beatrix, and Agatha; and on Alianore, Agnes, and Beatrix, and their iſſue, this lordſhip was ſettled, Alice and Agatha having their ſhares of the inheritance in Scarning and Dillington.

Oldhall's Manor. Alianore, the firſt ſiſter and coheireſs, married, and had Joan, her firſt daughter and coheireſs, married to Mr. Timworth; and Agnes, ſecond ſiſter, married to Edmund Swathing; Alice, ſecond ſiſter and coheireſs, married to ſir Edmund Oldhall, knt. father of ſir William Oldhall, who preſented to this church in 1446.

In the 23d of Henry VI. John Timworth, of Timworth, in Lincolnſhire, conveyed his right in this manor, &c. and the advowſon, to ſir William, then held of the Duchy of Lancaſter.

After the 8th year of Henry VIII. it came to Walter Gorges, eſq. of Wroxhall, in Somerſetſhire, ſon of ſir Theobald Gorges, by the marriage of Mary, daughter and heireſs of ſir William Oldhall, by Mary, his wife, daughter of William lord Willoughby, of Ereſby.

In the 15th of Henry VII. ſir Edmund Gorges, knt. and Edward, his ſon, conveyed it to Humphry Coninſby, eſq. ſerjeant at law, Thomas Frowick, &c.

In the 7th of Henry VIII. September 6, ſir William Capel, knt. died ſeiſed of it, with the advowſon of the church. In this family it remains, the right honorable

honorable William Anne Holles Capel, earl of Eſſex, being the preſent lord.

SWATHING'S MANOR. Agnes, third ſiſter and coheireſs of Jeffrey de Franſham, married Edmund de Swathing, and had William de Swathing, whoſe ſon, Edmund, having a daughter and heireſs, Elizabeth, brought this part, or ſhare, by marriage, to Henry Sharington.

Thomas Sharington, eſq. of Cranworth, ſettled it on truſtees, by his will, dated October 15, 1519, till his debts, &c. were paid, then to come to his ſon, William, and his heirs; but the ſaid William conveyed it with his right in the advowſon to Robert Hogan, eſq. in the 23d of Henry VIII. but Edward Mynne, of Franſham *Parva*, gave by his will, dated March 21, 1542, to Nicholas, his ſon, his part of the manor of Franſham *Magna*, which he bought of Thomas Sharington, and his ſon, William Sharington, eſq.

CURD'S, or CRUDD'S-HALL MANOR. Beatrix, the fourth ſiſter and coheireſs, married ———— Peſonhall, who held her third part, or ſhare, of this manor in 1446; and in the 34th of Henry VI. the truſtees for this manor remitted all their right in the lands, tenements, and ſervices, which they lately had of the demiſe of ſir Roger Harſick, Nicholas Bokking, with John Crudd.

John Crudd, lord of it, was buried in this church in 1489, father, as we imagine, of Nicholas Curdede, of *Mekye*-Franſham, as he ſtiles himſelf in his will, in 1505, and deſires to be buried in the church, and bequeaths to Catherine, his wife, his *trede*, part of the manor of Franſham.

In

In the 10th of Henry VIII. John Crudd conveyed to Robert Blagge, one of the barons of the Exchequer, this manor, with other lands, &c. in Franſham *Magna* and *Parva*, Dunham *Parva*, Scarning, Beeſton, &c. and the advowſon of this church.

The Cruddſ deſcend probably from Jeffrey de Crudd, of Rougham, who was living in the time of Henry III.

In the reign of Charles I. Iſaac Harſnet, of Colcheſter, in Eſſex, eſq. (brother to Samuel archbiſhop of York) was lord: he had Samuel, his ſon, who was ſole executor to the archbiſhop, and married Alianor, daughter of Thomas Cotton, eſq. of Starſton, in Earſham hundred, by whom he had ſeveral chlidren, Samuel, who was a lunatic, and five daughters; Barbara, the eldeſt, married Edward Fiſher, gent. of Norfolk; Eleanor, the ſecond, William Marſham, of Stratton-Strawleſs, and afterwards ſir Robert Drury, bart. of Riddleſworth, who was killed in the great hurricane in 1703, dying without iſſue, &c. This Samuel lived at Crudd's-hall.

John Beckham, gent. was lord of it, and dying unmarried, it was ſold according to his will to William Nelſon, gent. of Dunham *Parva*.

The lordſhip of Greſſenhall extended into this village, as did the lordſhip of Swanton Morley. The tenths were 5l. 10s. Deducted 10s.

In 1659 the feoffees of the lands belonging to the town of Necton, lying here, were charged in a militia rate at 40l. per ann. The temporalities of the priory of Pentney in 1428 were taxed at 8s. In the 6th of Elizabeth,

Elizabeth theſe lands were granted, September 18, to William Gryce, and Anthony Forſter.

The temporalities of Weſtacre priory were 7s.—of Wendling abbey 22s.—of Creak abbey 10d.—of Caſtle Acre priory 15s. per ann.

The church, which ſtands half a mile north of the turnpike road, and has a ſmall ſpire covered with lead on its tower, is dedicated to All Saints. The ancient value was ſixteen marks; the preſent value is 7l. 15s. 9d. ob. and pays firſt-fruits and tenths.

In 1723 the Rev. Daniel Burſelem was preſented to this rectory by the earl of Eſſex; and in 1777 Thomas Topping, clerk, was licenſed his curate.

At the eaſt end of the ſouth aile is an ancient chapel, at the entrance lies a large grey marble-ſtone, whereon is the portraiture of a perſon armed cap-a-pee; his hands conjoined and elevated, as at prayers, within a curious arch, or canopy-work, of braſs, inlaid in the ſtone; round the verge of it runs a fillet of braſs, thus inſcribed:—*Hic jacet Galfridus Franſham, armiger, de Franſham, qui obijt in feſto Jeronomi doctoris, anno Dni. Millo.* CCCCXIIII, *cuj; &c.*—On braſs ſhields are his arms.

On a grave-ſtone in the nave, the portraitures of a man and his wife, in their winding ſheets, and on a plate,—*Orate p. a'i'ab; Johs. Crudd, et Elizab. uxor. ſue, qui obijt* XVII *die Septemb. anno Dni.* MCCCCLXXXIX, *quor; a'i'ab; &c.*

Juſt under the arch of the ſteeple lies alſo a ſtone, with the portraiture of a woman in braſs, in a winding

ing ſheet, and on a plate,—*Orate p. a'i'a. Ceciliæ, uxor Johs. Legge,* - - - - - -.

In Rougham, and in this town, there was alſo another lordſhip, beſides that before-mentioned, belonging to the earl Warren, valued before the ſurvey at 50s. per ann. then at 60s.

All Franſham is ſaid to be nine furlongs long, and eight broad, and paid 10d. gelt, and Wimerus held it, who was lord of Greſſenhall, and it came afterwards to the Stuteviles; Robert de Stutevile in the 3d of Edward I. claimed free-warren here, and paſſed from him to the Foliots, lords of Greſſenhall, and others.

The village of Great Franſham lies on the road from Eaſt Dereham, four miles, to Swaffham eight. Mr. Edward Caſe, who carries on a conſiderable tannery here, has built a very handſome houſe by the road, fronting the green, which has (and not improperly) been named Hyde-park-corner.

FRANSHAM *Parva*, or LITTLE FRANSHAM. This was at the ſurvey the lordſhip of Ralph de Tony, and was held under Harold, afterwards king of England, in king Edward's days, and was valued with Necton. Eudo, ſon of Clema, had one carucate of land of thoſe three here delivered to him, which he held for life, afterwards Ralph de Beaufoe's, but Tony was in poſſeſſion of it at the ſurvey, belonging to this capital manor of Necton, to which it appertained in the Confeſſor's time.

Ralph de Tony claimed free-warren in his demeſne lands in the 3d of Edward I. and in the 33d of that king John le Strange held it of Robert de Tony by the

the ſervice of 2s. ſix quarters of barley, and four quarters of oats, valued at 23s. per ann.

In the 25th of Edward III. ſir Peter le Strange held it of the Beauchamps, earls of Warwick, heirs to the Tonys; and in the 1ſt of Richard II. he had a grant of a weekly market on Thurſday, and a fair every year on the eve, and the day of St. Botolph. Sir Peter was an eminent ſoldier; his will was made in France, at St. Maloes, in 1378, and Emma, his lady, had a grant thereby of all his lands for life, and after to be ſold, and the money to be diſpoſed of for his ſoul.

From the family of the Beauchamps, who were the capital lords, it came by marriage to Richard Nevile, earl of Warwick, and on his attainder to the crown; it was granted by Henry VIII. to ſir Thomas Boleyn, of Blickling, who preſented to the church in 1521, and again in 1535, being then earl of Wiltſhire, and father to Anna Boleyn, the queen; but after the death of this earl it was poſſeſſed by Francis Southwell.

In 1559 George Mynne, gent. preſented in his own right; and in 1592 Richard Beckham was lord, and preſented in 1610.

Thomas Hogan, eſq. was lord in 1710, and his ſon, Thomas, was lord in 1764, and a lunatic; but the patronage is ſold from the manor, Charles Barnwell, eſq. of Mileham, being the preſent patron.

CANON'S MANOR. Weſtacre priory, founded by the Tonys, held this of the gift of that family; their temporalities here were valued in 1428 at 2l. 7d. on the general diſſolution it was granted in the 34th of Henry VIII. to Richard Andrews, and Leonard Chamberlain,

Chamberlain. Edward Mynn in the 38th of the ſaid reign died poſſeſſed of it; and about 1600 Edward Mynn, being the queen's ward, it was during his minority in the hands of a Mr. Clarke.

Here was alſo another lordſhip in this town, called by the name of Kirkham and Wilcox, and was part of the earl Warren's fee, or manor, in Franſham *Magna*, which extended here. Robert de St Thomas, by deed without date, gave to the monks of Caſtle Acre the homage and ſervice of Roger de Franſham *Parva*, &c.

In the 10th of Henry VI. John Alderford conveyed to ſir William Oldhall, knt. the manor of Kirkham and Wilcox, in Franſham *Parva*, with other lands, &c. on his paying an annuity of 12l. per ann. for the life of Alice, wife of John.

Walter Gorges, eſq. held this in right of his wife, daughter and heireſs of ſir William Oldhall, and his ſon, Edmund, in the time of Edward IV. and paſſed with Franſham *Magna*.

The temporalities of Fakenham priory in 1428 were valued at 13s. 10d. Henry VIII. granted June 28, in his 36th year, this to William Berkley. The temporalities of Wendling abbey 5s. 7d. ob. and thoſe of Thetford canons here at 6d. The tenths of the town were 3l. 8s. Deduct 4s.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and is a rectory, anciently valued at fourteen marks; the preſent value is 6l. 8s. 3d. ob. and pays no firſt-fruits or tenths.

In

In 1743 the Rev. Charles Barnwell was preſented by Gibſon Neal, eſq. and in 1774 Charles Barnwell, eſq. of Mileham, preſented the Rev. Richard Drake, of Wymondham, to this rectory.

The village of Little Franſham lies on the turnpike road between Norwich and Lynn-Regis, being ſix miles from Eaſt Dereham, and ſix from Swaffham. The church, which ſtands north of the road, has no tower; and Hammond Alpe, eſq. now commanding a company in the Eaſt Norfolk regiment, has a ſeat here: his father, the late Hammond Alpe, eſq. ſerved the office of high ſheriff of Norfolk in 1758.

GATELY, or GATELEE, wrote in Doomſday-book Gatelea, was in the time of king Edward the lordſhip of Bund, a thane, or free-man, and granted by the Conqueror to Hugh de Montfort, in Bund's time; it was valued at 4l. per ann. was half a leuca long and broad, and paid 10d. gelt, and Ralph, a Norman lord, and chief juſticiary of England, held it under Hugh.

Ralph, who held under Hugh de Montfort, the capital lord, was anceſtor of the family of de Gately, lords of this village. Godfrey de Liſewys, who lived in the reign of Henry II. ſold lands in this town to Herlewyn de Gately, and Thomas, ſon of Herlewyn de Gately, by deed without date, gave to the church of the Holy Trinity of Norwich, all his land which he held in *capite* of Robert Scales, as well by knight's ſervice as in ſoccage, by the fifth part of a fee, paying 2s. ward per ann. to Dover-caſtle, and 14d. for ſoccage, which ſir Ralph de Gately, knt. afterwards confirmed.

In

In the 36th of Henry III. ſir Ralph de Gately held this lordſhip in *capite*, with the advowſon of the church of the caſtle of Dover, by the ſervice of two knights fees, and that Ralph was his ſon and heir, who then paid 10l. relief for all the lands he held in *capite*; he was alſo a knight, and ſold in the 44th of Henry III. to ſir Richard de la Rokele, two parts of this manor, held by two fees, and the reverſion of the third part on the deceaſe of Agnes, widow of ſir Ralph, his father; but by an inquiſition taken in the 3d of Edward I. we find that ſir Richard bought it of ſir Edmund de Gately.

Sir Richard de la Rokele was lord of Colkirk alſo, and Maud, the heireſs of this family, brought both theſe lordſhips by marriage, in the reign of Edward I. to ſir Roger Atte-Aſh, and ſo they deſcended to the Baynards, the Thorpes, Tilney, Bourchier, Knevet, Hare, &c. and Richard Warner, eſq. of North Elmham, died lord in 1757.

When Robert Baynard died ſeiſed of it in the 4th of Edward III. it was then held of Iſabel, queen dowager of England, as of her manor of Hawley, in Suffolk, by the ſervice of two knights fees, and paying 20s. per ann. caſtle-guard to Dover. In the 1ſt of Henry VII. this manor and lands alone were farmed at 10l. per ann.

William de Liſewy's manor of South Rainham, held of the honor of Hawley, alſo extended into this town, which he gave to the monks of Caſtle Acre, in the reign of Henry II. and Godfrey de Liſewys granted to Herlewyn de Gately, for two marks, all the land, late Acelnod's, in Gately, of his fee.

This

This fee came afterwards to the Scales; Robert, ſon of ſir Robert de Scales, held it in 1280, and then conveyed a meſſuage, &c. here, in pure alms, to the prior, &c. of Norwich, who received him into all the benefits of his church; and their temporalities here in 1428 were valued at 3l. 12s. 4d. per ann. The family of Scales held alſo lands in the 6th of Edward III. by knights ſervice.

William de Beaufoe, biſhop of Thetford, had in his own right and inheritance in this town a ſmall part of a fee, held under him by a free-man, viz. ſix acres, valued at 6d. per ann. but the ſoc was in Mileham. This was afterwards given by biſhop Beaufoe to the ſee, for ever, and ſo became a part of the manor of Colkirk, which belonged alſo to this biſhopric.

Peter de Valoins had alſo a ſmall fee in this town, held under him by Ralph, valued in all at 20s. This Ralph was anceſtor of the family of de Gately, and his poſterity enjoying it, it was united to his capital lordſhip. It appears that truſtees ſettled this manor on Lucia, daughter and heireſs of ſir Roger Atte-Aſhe, (married to Robert Baynard) in the reign of Edward II. from whom it came to the Thorpes, &c.

In ancient writings we find a place, called Colyneſnapp, or Tolleſnape, ſaid to be in this pariſh.

The tenths of the town were 2l. 13s. 4d.—Deduct 3s. 4d.—Rem. 2l. 10s.—The temporalities of Peterſton priory in 1428, 2s.—Langley abbey 4s.—Weſtacre priory 11s.—Caſtle Acre 22s.

Sir Ralph de Gately, knt. granted, as lord and patron, to the abbot of St. Mary de Pratis, of Creak, ſeveral parcels of land, with the advowſon of the

church of St. Helen's, of Gately, pope Alexander granting licence to appropriate it to the ſaid abbey, the biſhop of Norwich confirmed it, and ordained a vicarage to conſiſt in the following things:—all the altarage, tithe hay, heath, or turbary, the tithes ariſing from the little cloſes belonging to the houſes, ſix acres of arable land, a meſſuage, and eight perches in length and breadth, in Serjeant's Croft; the abbot and convent to have all the reſt of the profits as rectors, and they to ſuſtain all epiſcopal and archidiaconal expences, but all extraordinary charges to be ſuſtained by the religious, and the vicar, according to proportion; the abbot and convent to have the preſentation of the vicarage; dated at Thornage, the ides of February, 1264, in the 7th year of his pontificate..

The prior of Caſtle Acre releaſed to Thomas the abbot of Creak 6s. 8d. rent per ann. for two parts of the tithes of the land here, called Tolleſnape, &c. There being a controverſy between the abbot and the rector of Colkirk, for tithes of ſeveral parcels of land in Shortland, Longland, Wyſwong, &c. ſome were adjudged to the rector, and ſome to the abbot, in 1315; the 6s. 8d. before releaſed was due for tithe of land given dy Godfrey be Liſewys, in 1324.

The appropriated rectory was valued at twenty-ſix marks, the vicarage at ſix marks, and the vicarage now at 3l. 2s. 7d. At the diſſolution of Creak abbey it came to the crown, (which was before the general diſſolution of religious houſes) in the 22d year of Henry VII. who then gave the abbey, with all its poſſeſſions, to his mother, the counteſs of Richmond, who in the following year granted the ſame to Chriſt College, in Cambridge, then founded by her.

In

In 1751 the Rev. Charles Dix was preſented to this vicarage by the maſter and fellows of Chriſt College, Cambridge; and in 1777 Mr. Edward Bunting was licenſed curate.

The vicar is diſcharged of firſt-fruits and tenths. In the church was the guild of St. Helen, to whom the church was dedicated.

Gat gives name to Gatewick, and Gat, in Suſſex, Gatton, in Surry, on the river Gat.

Robert Sharrock, eſq. reſides at his ſeat in this town, which is prettily ſituated at the north-weſt end of Elmham common. The country hereabouts is finely wooded.

GODWICK, ſo called, ſays Parkin, from its ſcite by a good water, or ſtream, as Godeſton, and Godeſtow, was the lordſhip of Ralph de Tony at the ſurvey, held by a free man in the reign of king Edward the Confeſſor, who had land, &c. and was valued in Necton, Ralph's capital manor; it was ſix furlongs long, and four broad, and paid 6d. ob. gelt: this land went with Necton, but did not lie in it, and Roger Bigot claimed it of the gift of the king, and by the delivery of it.

Ralph de Tony on the foundation of the abbey of Weſtacre gave this lordſhip to it, with the patronage of the church; and in the 9th of Edward II. the prior was lord, and ſo it remained till the general diſſolution of the monaſteries in the reign of Henry VIII. who granted both the manor and patronage of the church to ſir Thomas le Strange, of Hunſtanton, December 4, in his 32d year, being held by the twentieth part of a fee.

In the 3d of Elizabeth Henry Canceler was lord of it, with twelve meſſuages in this village, Tittleſhall, Whiſſonſet, and Patteſley, it being conveyed to Robert Canceler from Nicholas le Strange, in the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary; and in the 16th of Elizabeth licence was granted to Henry Canceler to alien the manor and advowſon to John Drury, eſq. called Norfolk Drury, (a younger ſon of John Drury, of Rougham, in Suffolk) who married Eleanor, daughter of Thomas Sydney, of Walſingham, by whom he had Robert Drury, eſq. of Docking, who died in 1624. The Drurys ſold it to ſir Edward Coke, the judge, whoſe immediate heir, the right honorable the earl of Leiceſter, died lord, Auguſt 20, 1759.

In this town is the old ſeat of ſir Edward Coke, and lately inhabited by Ralph Cauldwell, eſq. of Hilborough.

The temporalities of Weſtacre priory in 1428 were valued (in lands, rent, a mill, &c.) at 3l. 1s. 11d. ob. —of Normanſburgh priory at 3s.—Walſingham priory 2s. per ann.—The tenths of the town were 24s.—Deduct 6s. 8d.—Remains 17s. 4d.

In a book, called Norwich Doomſday, wrote about the beginning of the time of Edward I. this town is called Godwick, *alias* Hendewyck, *hen* expreſſing likely the name of the ſtream, or rivulet, of this wick, as Henſtead hundred, &c. the church was then valued at 100s. and was in the patronage of Weſtacre priory; the preſent value is 1l. 10s. 10d. and is diſcharged.

On December 15, 1630, this church was conſolidated with that of Tittleſhall by the biſhop of Norwich

wich, then at Ludham, ſir Edward Coke, the patron of both churches, conſenting.

In 1742 the Rev. William Hoſte was preſented to the united rectory by the earl of Leiceſter, then lord Lovell.

There is nothing remaining of the old church but part of the ſteeple.

GRESSENHALL, or GRESSENHALE, was in king Edward's time the lordſhip of Toke, a free-man, (a Saxon thane) who had many lordſhips in this county; after him Fedric poſſeſſed it; but at the ſurvey it was one of the lordſhips of William earl Warren, and Scarning was a beruite, or lordſhip, depending on this.

The town ſeems to take its name as lying on watry meadows, by a river, probably called in ancient days the Ger, or Yar; *ing*, ſignifying meadows, and *hale*, not a hall, but a moiſt place, as Hales-worth, and Aleſham; we find it wrote Garſighnehael in a deed without date.

It was valued at the ſurvey, together with its beruite, Scarning, at 4l. and with that was ſeven furlongs long, four broad, and paid 7d. ob. gelt, and Wimer held the whole.

William earl Warren aforeſaid granted this to Wimer, his *dapifer*, with the manors of Kempſtone, Dunham *Magna*, Eaſt Lexham, &c. inſomuch that it was accounted and called the honor of Greſſenhall; and he gave to the monks of Caſtle Acre the churches of the aforeſaid towns, with the tithes of his demeſnes therein.

William, grandſon of Wimer, aſſumed the name of Greſſenhall, and left ſeveral ſons; Roger, his eldeſt, ſucceeded him, and left William de Greſſenhall, his ſon and heir.

This William had an only daughter, Iſabel, who married, firſt, Beringer de Creſſi, and afterwards William de Huntingfield*; and Oſmund de Stutevile, her third huſband, was lord of this town in her right.

In the 17th of king John he had a grant of the lands of William de Maundevile in this county, during pleaſure, and was a younger ſon of Robert de Stutevile, by Eneburga, his wife, and grandſon of Robert de Stutevile, who came into England with the Conqueror, were both of them barons of this realm, and had many lordſhips in Yorkſhire, &c.

Oſmund died at Joppa, in the Holy Land, and left two ſons, Roger, and William, the eldeſt, to whom this lordſhip was aſſigned; he confirmed the donations of all his anceſtors to the aforeſaid monks, in their advowſons, tithes, fiſheries, mills, excepting to himſelf the advowſon of the churches of St. Peter and St. Paul, of Weaſenham-Thorpe, before the juſtices at Weſtminſter, in the Quindeens of St. Hillary, in the 41ſt of Henry III.

In the 13th of Henry III. he paid forty marks for twenty-three knights fees; and in the 15th, in conſideration of two palfreys, and 20s. in ſilver, obtained pardon for marrying Margaret, daughter and heireſs of ſir Hugh de Say, of Ricard's-caſtle, in Herefordſhire, relict

* William de Huntingfield, and Iſabel, his wife, were living in the 6th year of Richard I.

relict of Robert Mortimer, without licence. In the 17th of the ſaid king he was one of the barons of the marches, and delivered up Oſmund, his ſon, as an hoſtage for his fidelity. In the 26th year he gave a fine of fifteen marks to be exempted from going into Gaſcoigne; and in the 43d of the ſaid king died ſeiſed of many lordſhips, in right of Margaret, his wife.

He was ſucceeded by Robert de Stutevile, his ſon and heir, who ſtanding firm to Henry III. in his war with the barons, was taken by Henry de Montfort, and impriſoned, and obliged to ſell his manor of Withersfield, in Suffolk, to Giles Argenton, one of their party, to redeem himſelf, which was reſtored to him (after the defeat of the barons) in the 59th of that king's reign.

Robert married Joan, daughter and heireſs of William Talbot, of Gainſborough, in Lincolnſhire, and died ſeiſed of this town, held of earl Warren by two knights fees, in the 1ſt year of Edward I. viz. a capital meſſuage, a water-mill, a wind-mill, 200 acres of paſture, a carr, &c. all valued at 19l. 3s. 4d. and was a great benefactor to the abbey of Wendling, leaving Margery, his ſiſter and heireſs, married to ſir Richard Foliot, who dying in the 6th of Edward I. left a ſon and heir, Jordan, lord of this town, with its members. In the 14th of that king he claimed free-warren, the aſſize of bread and beer of his tenants, frank-pledge, by view of the king's bailiff, a weekly market on Monday, and a fair on the vigil, the day, and day after St. Michael.

In the 27th of Edward I. Jordan covenants with Edmund Foliot "to find the ſaid Edmund proviſion and cloathing, viz. one robe at Chriſtmas, with two

ſupertunics, well lined, and a ſaddle, (*ſellam*) agreeable to that of Jordan, and to maintain one eſquire, and three grooms, of the ſaid Edmund, in proviſion, amongſt thoſe of Jordan, together with the palfrey, and ſumpter horſe of Edmund, as the palfrey and ſumpter horſe of Jordan, together with the eſquire of Edmund, like as the eſquire of Jordan, for the life of Edmund."

In the ſaid year Jordan, then a knight, died ſeiſed of this manor, &c. doing ſuit and ſervice to Caſtle Acre court every three weeks. There was then a park in this lordſhip, and a wood, called Old-hall carr.

In the year after his death Margery, his widow, was impleaded by the earl Warren to deliver to him Richard, her ſon and heir, by Jordan, who held this and other lordſhips of him, by homage, fealty, and the ſervice of nine knights fees and an half. She pleads that ſhe only kept him to nurſe, being young; and in the 29th of the ſaid king Ralph de Monthermer, earl of Glouceſter, impleaded her on the ſame account, which ſhews the hardſhips that attended families on theſe occaſions, when ſhe replied that ſhe had delivered him into court, and the court committed him to ſir Roger Bilney, knight, who re-delivered him to his mother, during the pleaſure of the court. She died in the 3d year of Edward III. and was buried before the great altar in the preſbytery of Wendling abbey, on the north ſide, being ſtiled advocate, or patroneſs thereof.

Sir Richard Foliot, ſon of ſir Jordan, dying without iſſue in the 4th of Edward III. his two ſiſters, Margery, married to ſir Hugh de Haſtings, and Margaret, to ſir John Camois, were his heireſſes.

In

In the 4th of Edward III. ſir John de Camois releaſed to ſir Hugh Haſtings this lordſhip, with all the right, and that of Elſing, with the chapel of Rougholm, and the advowſon of Wendling abbey. Sir Hugh was ſon of ſir John de Haſtings, lord Abergavenny, by Iſabel, his ſecond lady, daughter of Hugh le Deſpencer, earl of Wincheſter. He built the church of Elſing, and was there buried in 1347, as was his lady, in 1349.

Sir Hugh Haſtings, his ſon, was ſummoned to parliament as a baron in the 16th of Edward III. and in his 20th year ſtiled the king's couſin, conſtituted his lieutenant in Flanders, and ſerved in the wars both in France and Spain.

Sir Hugh Haſtings was his ſon and heir, and married Ann, daughter of Edward lord Spencer, and died in Spain, on his pilgrimage to Jeruſalem, in 1370; his lady afterwards married lord Morley.

Sir Hugh Haſtings, the fourth of that name, was his ſon and heir, and married a daughter of ſir William Blount; he died at Calais, on the marriage of Richard II. to Iſabel, daughter of the king of France, in 1395, without iſſue, and his brother, Edward, aged 14, then the king's ward, ſucceeded him. He was afterwards a knight, and ſtiled himſelf lord Haſtings and Stutevile, and engaged with Reginald lord Grey, of Ruthyn, for the right of the lands, arms, and honors, of the Haſtings, earls of Pembroke, in a long ſuit, which is ſaid to have ſo much reduced him, (though poſſeſſed of great eſtates) that he died at London, in the Fleet.

Dugdale ſays he was condemned in 970l. &c. coſts on this ſuit, and impriſoned on that account

ſixteen years, but mentions not the time of his death; it was before the year 1441, in which year John Windham, eſq. preſented to the church of Briſley, in right of Margery, late wife of Edward lord Haſtings; and it appears that in 1435, September 12, the ſaid lord preſented to that church. Sir Hugh married Margery aforeſaid, daughter of ſir John Denham, knight, by whom he had ſir John Haſtings, whoſe lady was Ann, daughter of John lord Morley.

Sir Hugh was their ſon and heir, who preſented to this church as lord and patron in 1485, and by Ann, daughter of ſir William Gaſcoigne, had ſeveral children; John, ſir George Haſtings, and ſir Brian Haſtings, and ſix daughters. This ſir Hugh died in the 4th of Henry VII. and John was his ſon and heir, and being a knight, preſented to the church of Greſſenhall in 1492, and 1503, and died in the 20th of Henry VII. without iſſue, holding this lordſhip, and that of Elſing, &c. of the Duchy of Lancaſter.

Sir George Haſtings, his brother, was his heir, and preſented to this church in 1504; he married Ann, daughter and heireſs of Alexander Brabezon, and died June 11, in the 3d of Henry VIII.

John, the eldeſt ſon of ſir George, married Catherine, daughter and one of the heireſſes of Robert le Strange, eſq. and ſhe, as his widow, preſented to the church of Greſſenhall in 1519, holding this lordſhip in dower.

Hugh Haſtings, his brother and heir, preſented to the church of Briſley in 1537. and in 1540 to this church, then a knight, and died before the 13th of November,

November, 1556, when Catherine Haſtings, widow of ſir Hugh, preſented to the church of Stanfield.

John Haſtings, eſq. was ſon and heir of ſir Hugh, and dying without iſſue in the 35th of Henry VIII. left two ſiſters and coheireſſes; Ann, the eldeſt, married to William Browne, eſq. ſecond ſon to ſir Anthony Browne, maſter of the horſe to Henry VIII. and knight of the garter, who had with her the lordſhips of Elſing and Weaſenham; and Elizabeth, married to Hamon le Strange, eſq. ſon and heir to ſir Nicholas, of Hunſtanton, who had this lordſhip, &c. aſſigned to him, and he died ſeiſed of it in the 22d of Elizabeth, October 7, 1580.

In this honorable family (of which a particular account is given in Hunſtanton) it remained, that truly courteous and hoſpitable baronet, ſir Henry le Strange, dying lord, September 9, 1760, and his relict, lady le Strange, now enjoys this eſtate, and reſides at the hall.

By a pleading in the 22d of Elizabeth it appears that there were two ſokens, the north and ſouth; and the cuſtom was, that an heir, or tenant, to any copyhold land in one alone of theſe paid, on admittance, 5s. fine only; if in both, then 10s. and if a copyholder did not ſell all his land, then the fine to be 2s. per acre, and that they might ſell their timber.

HEREFORD MANOR was a part of the capital manor belonging to a branch of the family of de Greſſenhall, deſcended from Wimerus *Dapifer*. In 1277 Thomas de Hereford was lord of this manor.

In the 3d of Henry IV. Alan Rouſe, and Joan, his wife, granted to William Clerk the ſaid lordſhip,

ſhip, who conveyed it to John de Hoo in the ſaid reign.

John Ferrour, of Greſſenhall, ſen. died in 1483, and was buried in the church-yard of St. Mary of Greſſenhall; he had this manor in Greſſenhall, Scarning, and Wendling, and willed that the villages of Stanfield, Briſley, Horningtoft, and Bilney, having amongſt them ſixteen cows, are for ever to exonerate by their profits, as far as they can, 6os. the leet-fee of the North Soken, annually paid to the lord of the manor of Greſſenhall, and his heirs, by his tenants in the aforeſaid villages, or elſewhere.

John Ferrour occurs lord in the 12th of Elizabeth; and in 1637 Robert Halcot, who in the ſaid year paid a quit-rent of 15s. per ann. for it to the lord of Greſſenhall.

John le Strange held his firſt court in May, 1682; William Tinker, gent. his in October, 1701; William Pretheroe, gent. in March, 1708; and the Rev. William Pretheroe, his ſon, rector of Eaſt Barſham, is the preſent lord.

St. NICHOLAS'S CHAPEL was founded in a place called Rougholm, in Greſſenhall, by William de Stutevile, lord of the town, in the reign of Henry III. In his 34th year a fine was levied between William de Ling, chaplain of it, and William de Stutevile aforeſaid, who granted the rent of four marks per ann. and ſeven acres of land here, in Scarning and Braddenham, to the chaplain, and his ſucceſſors, in free-alms, to ſuſtain a chaplain therein, to pray for his ſoul, his anceſtors, and his heirs, to be preſented by him and his heirs, the four marks to be received from his tenants, and if the chaplain ſhould be unfit to celebrate

brate, or the chapel vacant for forty days, the dioceſan was then to preſent another. It was diſſolved by Edward VI. who granted it July 23, in his 4th year, to ſir Nicholas le Strange, knt. with all its meſſuages and lands here, &c. and the ſaid ſir Nicholas had licence to alienate the manor of Rougholm, with its appurtenances, to William Warner, and his heirs, in the 1ſt and 2d of Philip and Mary; the ſcite of it was by Greſſenhall-mill, and valued at 12l. and 5d. per ann. It was a long narrow building, with a north and ſouth tranſcept, and a chancel, which, with the north tranſcept, is in ruins, the reſt ſtill ſtanding, and now an houſe; and a little way ſouth of it, where the brethren lived, there ſtood a houſe, now an oſier ground.

Here is an annual fair kept on St. Nicholas the biſhop's day, December 6.

The maſter, or cuſtos, of the chapel of St. Nicholas had a penſion of 4l. 16s. per ann. paid him from the crown in 1503.

The common ſeal of this houſe, or college, was the effigy of St. Nicholas, in his pontificals.

The church of Greſſenhall is a large pile, built in a cathedral manner, with a north and ſouth tranſcept, and a tower in the middle, as you enter the chancel, which tower decaying, licence was granted January 28, 1698, to take down the ſpire on the top of it. This tower had been repaired in 1491 by John Ferrour; and on the battlements was an inſcription to that purpoſe.

The north tranſcept is called Ferrour's chantry, or chapel, and that on the ſouth Haſting's chapel, both covered

covered with lead, as the nave, the north and ſouth ailes, with the ſouth porch, are, and the chancel; in the tower are five bells.

The chancel is very neat, being beautified at the coſt of the late rector, Mr. Hugh Hare, and is ſeated round, the communion table railed in, and has a covering of red ſilk, with a deep ſilver lace, and a rich piece of gold brocade, with a large croſs of ſilk worked thereon, &c. being the gift of his wife.

In the wall of the chancel, by the table, is a braſs plate, with——a chevron between three eſtolls, or eſcallops;—*Johannes Eſtmond, generoſus, natus in parochia de Chardſtock, comitat. Dorſett. olim collegij novi apud Oxon ſocius, juris civilis doctor, et unus advocatorum curiæ de arcubus London, nuper eccleſiæ de Saham Tony comitat. Norf. rector. In hoc vica mortuus* 17 *Octob. anno Dni.* 1604, *ætat. ſuæ* 56, *hic jacet ſepultus - - Sarah Eſtmond, conjux, mœſtiſſima poſuit.*

On a braſs plate on the ſouth wall,—*Sarah Eſtmond, uxor. primo Thomæ Steward, generoſi, deinde Johs. Eſtmond, legum doct. quos vivens hic ſepultos curavit ex Thoma ſuſcepit liberos ſuperſtites* 4, *filios Thoma' et Edmundu' filias Sarah, et Jana' ipſa vero e vivis exceſſit* 14 *die Octob. anno Dni.* 1609, *ætatis ſuæ* 56.

On a ſtone,—*Exuviæ Suſannæ le Strange,* 1679.

Robert Halcot, of Greſſenhall, yeoman, died November 2, 1640.

Hic jacet Ann pia (Samuelis Harſnet, armig. filia) uxor amantiſſima Rogeri le Strange, generoſi, quæ obt. 5 *Nov. ætat. ſuæ* 37, *anno* 1677;—with the arms of le Strange impaling Harſnet.

Sir

Sir Nicholas le Strange, bart. ſon of ſir Nicholas le Strange, and Dame Mary, his wife, born on the 2d of December, 1661, *married to Anna, daughter of Sir Thomas Wodehouſe, and Dame Ann, his wife, on the 2d day of December,* 1686, *died at Greſſenhall on the* 18*th day of December,* 1724.

On a monument of white marble in the chancel, le Strange impaling Wodehouſe;—*Dame Ann, relict of Sir Nicholas le Strange, baronet, only daughter of Sir Thomas Wodehouſe, of Kimberley, knight, and of Dame Ann, ſecond daughter and coheireſs of Sir William Armine, of Oſgodby, in Lincolnſhire, born the 2d of February,* 1668, *died at Greſſenhall the* 10*th of April,* 1727, *and lies interred by her huſband.*

In Haſting's chantry, on the pavement, lies a large marble-ſtone, diſrobed of its effigies, braſs ſhields, and ornaments; on a braſs plate remaining,

Nobilitas gen'is quid p' deſt, o'ia ſolvit,
Mors que ſub lapide ho. p' cerum duo corpora volvit;
Morib; inſigni comitu de ſanguine natus,
Pembrochie jacet hic John Haſlyng pulv'e ſtrat;
Uxor et Anna ſibi que ſangui'e filia ſcitur
De Morley, d'no moriens p. eum ſepelitur.
Quiſquis et iſta legas fuſa prece ſiſte, rogatus,
Ut Deus amborum velit indulgere reatus.
Ann. erat Chriſti poliando co'gru; iſti
Mill. quadringen; uno plus ſeptuagenus.

A ſtone,—*In memory of Rachel, daughter of Richard Veſy, of Readwell, in Suffolk, eſq. and wife of Edward Davy, of this town, who died September* 7, 1725.

On

On the gallery at the weſt end of the church,—*Robert Halcot, the owner of Harephares, gave this gallery*, 1635.

The church is dedicated to the aſſumption of the bleſſed Virgin, and was anciently valued at eighteen marks. The preſent value of this rectory is 15l. 12s. 5d. ob.

The monks of Caſtle Acre had two portions of tithe, one of 24s. per ann. another of 12s.—Temporalities in 1428 of Caſtle Acre, 2s. 8d.—of Wendling abbey, 4s. 1d.—of Peterſton priory, 18d. per annum.

John Ferrour before-mentioned was ſteward of this manor, and gave by will, in 1483, to this townſhip, a meſſuage, called Noppys, with twenty acres of land, to keep his anniverſary, and to pay 20s. (as it is ſaid) per ann. to the lord of Greſſenhall, to pay the leet.

On the grave-ſtone of ſir John Haſtings, in the chapel of Haſtings, there was theſe following verſes, which began the epitaph:

Hic ſtratus, ſi quo ſit natus ſanguine, quæris;
A proavo genitum noſcas cuj nupſerat heres
Pembrochie comitum Vollenſis origine nata.
Huic comites plures donec crudelia fata
Extulerant peſtem (Woodſtock) te convoco teſtem
Qui nece ſub mæſta cecidit dum frangitur haſta
Hugo ſucceſſit miles ſibi qui ſociavit
Lordani Foliot natam, de qua generavit
Hugonem ſed huic Everingham nata potentis
Nupſit, et Hugonis ſit mater ad arma valentis

Nata

Nata cuj d'ni Spencer tedis generavit
Edwardum, cuj John Dinham natam ſociavit.
E quibus hoc tumulo ſtratus ſit origo Johannes
Cuj requies detur cunctis viventibus annis
Hugo, Roberte, quibus Edmundus frater habetur
Poſcatis precibus celis requieſcere detur.

In 1743 the Rev. Benjamin Croſts was preſented to the rectory of Greſſenhall, *alias* Greſſinghall, by the late ſir Thomas le Strange, bart. and in 1776 Edward Roger North was licenſed curate.

The village of Greſſenhall is ſituated by the road from Eaſt Dereham to Litcham. The church ſtands on an eminence, at the north end of the avenue leading from the hall, at preſent inhabited by lady le Strange, who inherits that hoſpitality and benevolent diſpoſition ſo conſpicuous in the family for many centuries. This lady is the laſt of the name who will own this valuable eſtate; for, on her deceaſe, it reverts to the Stylemans, of Snettiſham, by marriage.

HOE, or How, is an hamlet belonging to the pariſh of Eaſt Dereham, and with it belonged to the abbey of Ely, and was held by Ralph, ſon of Ivo, of the abbot, and afterwards of the king, as appears from the book of Doomſday:—Hou was valued in Dereham.

The ſoc belonged to the king's manor of Mileham, with two ſocmen, who held lands, &c. valued at 4s. per ann. The abbot had the protection and the right of foldage.

This lordſhip was held by the Walpoles of the ſee of Ely. In the 3d of Edward I. the biſhop of Ely

claimed the aſſize of bread and beer, ſoc, ſac, thol, and them, infantghef, view of frank-pledge, and return of writs, as belonging to his manor of Eaſt Dereham.

In the ſee it remained till in the reign of queen Elizabeth it was with other lands of that ſee granted to the crown.

Hamon le Strange, eſq. died ſeiſed of the manor of Heymer, in Hoe, Oct. 7, in the 22d of Elizabeth, held of the biſhop of Ely by fealty, and 12d. rent; and Nicholas le Strange held it in the 25th of the ſaid queen.

James I. in his 7th year, September 30, granted to Edward Ferrers, and Francis Philips, a water-mill, with the houſe in Hoe, and an oſier ground adjoining, containing one rood, and a fiſhery, beginning at the head of the mill, and extending itſelf near to Chapel-mill, being part of the manor of Eaſt Dereham, and of the poſſeſſions of the ſee of Ely, of the rent of 4l. per annum.

Sir Walter de Hoe, knight, gave lands in Hoe to the monks of Caſtle Acre.

Mr. Alexander de Walpole alſo held of earl Warren the manor of Hereford-hall, in Greſſenhall, that extended here; and John de Hoe held the fourth part of a fee in the 18th of Henry III. of William de Stutevile. Thomas de Hereford was lord in 1277; and Warin de Hereford had frank-pledge, aſſize of bread and beer, &c. in the 15th of Edward I. After this Hereford-hall was held by the Ferrers, &c.

In

In 1661 Thomas Utber, eſq. lord of Hoe, of the Middle Temple, London, ſold to Matthew Helcot, tanner, of Litcham, 160 acres of land, called Eaſt-field-cloſes; and in 1668 the manor of Hoe, and Hereford, was poſſeſſed by William Frith, eſq. of Horn-church, in Eſſex, who ſold them to alderman Farrington, of London.

In the 7th of James I. Thomas Gooch held lands in Hoe, in *capite*; and in 1659 Thomas Gooch, gent. was taxed at 125l. per ann. in the militia rate for his eſtate.

To this hamlet belongs a chapel, with a nave, or body, a north and ſouth aile, and a chancel, covered with lead, with a ſquare tower and three bells, and the cure is ſerved by the vicar of Eaſt Dereham.

In the middle aile, before the pulpit, a grave-ſtone, —*Willi. Skarlet q; obijt* XX *die Maij, anno Domini* MCCCCLXXXIIII.

Another,—*Johs. Dunha, de Hoo, gentilema, obijt* XXII *die November. anno Dni.* MCCCCLXVII.

In the north aile, at the eaſt end, was a chapel; in the window the arms of Morley; alſo the figures of a perſon lying as dead on an altar-tomb, and five prieſts as praying by him, in a north window: in the eaſt window of the ſaid aile is a repreſentation of the crucifixion; and here was probably a clerk's chantry.

On a grey marble ſtone,—*Here lieth the body of Thomas Utber, gent. deceaſed, Nov.* 25, 1641.

One,—*In memory of Margaret, late wife of Thomas Utber, gent. deceaſed April* 17, 1622.

An altar-tomb of black marble, with the arms of le Strange impaling Lane, with this motto,—*Mihi parta tueri.*—for—*Suſanna, wife of Roger le Strange, gent. and daughter of Francis Lane, of Thuxton, March* 12, 1687, *aged* 37.

A mural monument againſt the eaſt wall here, with the arms of le Strange,—*For Roger le Strange, gent. third ſon of Sir Nicholas le Strange, knt. of Hunſtanton, October* 29, 1706, *aged* 63.

In a north window of the chancel are the arms of the ſee of Ely.

In 1533 the chapel of Hoe was conſolidated with the vicarage of Eaſt Dereham, and the Rev. George Thomas holds them of the gift of the Rev. Francis Wollaſton, L. L. B.

The late Thomas Halcott, eſq. reſided at his ſeat here.

HORNINGTOFT, wrote in Doomſday-book Hornghetoſt. We meet in many counties with towns taking their names from Horn, as Hornby, Horncaſtle, Horn-church, Hornſey, (all ſeated by ſome river, or ſtream) from their bending and winding; thus, the Tyber is called by Virgil Corniger; the ancient Britons gave the name of Corn to ſome rivers, hence the Cornavij.—*Parkin.*

Godric held this lordſhip under the Conqueror, or farmed it of him at the time of the ſurvey. Aluric, a free-man, poſſeſſed it in the time of king Edward. Stigand had the ſoc of nine men in the reign of the ſaid king, when they held two carucates, and Ralph earl of Norfolk ſeized on it; and on his forfeiture, by

by rebellion, it came to the crown, and Godric held it of the king. All Horningtoft (including Kipton) was eight furlongs long, and five broad, and paid 4d. gelt.

Soon after the ſurvey the Conqueror granted it to Alan earl of Richmond, in England, and of Bretaigne, in France, who married Conſtance, one of the daughters of William the Conqueror.

Richard de Geel, with his brothers, conveyed to Hamo Burt land in this town, and Whiſſonſet, in the 10th of Richard I. and Hamo had power to incloſe the common here, paying to the biſhop of Norwich, and his ſucceſſors, 2s. per ann.

Sir Hamo de Burt releaſed by his deed, without date, to Robert le Hendy, of Pudding-Norton, and to his ſons, all his right in certain lands; and one of the ſame name was lord of this manor and advowſon in the 43d of Henry III.

In the 15th of Edward I. ſir Thomas Burt claimed the aſſize, free-warren, and view of frank-pledge, with the view of the king's bailiff, in this town an in Kipton.

About the ſame time ſir Robert de Tateſhale held one knight's fee in this town, Kipton, &c. valued at 40l. per ann. and paid 10s. per ann. ward to Richmond-caſtle.

In the 18th of Edward I. ſir Thomas de Burt granted this lordſhip by fine to Nicholas de Caſtello, with the advowſon of the church; and the ſaid Nicholas in the 20th of the ſaid king held half a fee

here of ſir Robert de Tateſhale; Gregory de Caſtello, his ſon, was lord in the 9th of Edward II.

In the year 1349, May 8, a rector was inſtituted on the preſentation of ſir Nicholas de Caſtello, knight; and on the 24th of June another, on the preſentation of Hugh de Caſtello, lord of this village.

On the death of John de Beaufort, duke of Bedford, lord of the honor Richmond, in the 14th of Henry VI. Nicholas de Caſtello held two knights fees of the ſaid honor; and Humphry Caſtell, eſq. of Raveningham, was lord in 1461.

John Caſtell, of Raveningham, eſq. died lord in 1551, and Roger, his eldeſt ſon, was lord after him; and on his death, about the 20th of Elizabeth, was ſucceeded by his brother, John Caſtell, eſq.

In 1616 this lordſhip paid an annual rent of 5s. to the lord of Swaffham, as Richmond fee.

Mary Caſtell held it in 1659, and was charged to the militia rate at 100l. per ann.

Auguſtine Caſtell, of Raveningham, eſq. ſold it to ſir Richard Berney, of Reedham, bart. in which family it remains, ſir John Berney, of Kirby-Bedon, being the preſent lord.

Henry VIII. in his 38th year granted to Richard Taverner lands here, in the tenure of Nicholas Mynne, and John Dean, November 3.

The church is a rectory, dedicated to St. Edmund the king and martyr; the ancient value was thirteen marks; the preſent value is 6l. 17s. 7d. and is diſcharged

charged of tenths, &c. The prior of Caſtle Acre had a penſion, or portion of tithe, of one mark per annum. The tenths of the town were 2l. 14s. Deducted 4s.

The church and chancel are covered with lead, and has a ſquare tower with four bells.

On a grave-ſtone with a braſs plate, in the church,—*Orate p. a'i'a. Eliz. Oldman, nup. ux'is Henrici Oldman, q'i. obijt.* iii *die Febr. anno Dni.* MVXXXII. *et p. quib; tenetr.*—On the font are the arms of Caſtell.

The Rev. Richard Berney, of Worſtead, in this county, is the preſent rector, preſented by the late ſir Hanſon Berney, bart.

KEMPSTON, or KEMPSTONE, wrote in Doomſday-book Kemeſtuna. Four ſocmen held in the reign of king Edward, under archbiſhop Stigand, a carucate of land, but at the ſurvey William earl Warren was lord, valued at 20s. per ann.

This lordſhip was given ſoon after the ſurvey to the priory of Caſtle Acre, by Wimer, *dapifer*, or ſteward to the earl Warren, and lord of Greſſenhall, and confirmed by his ſons, Roger and William, who were alſo *dapiferi* to the ſaid earls Warren.

In the 34th of Henry II. Maud, wife of Ubbe, conveyed to the prior of Caſtle Acre ſixty acres of land in this town.

The prior held this manor about the 20th of Henry III. of the lord of Greſſenhall, by the fourth part of a fee, in pure alms; and that king, in his 40th year, granted to the prior and convent free-warren in

his demeſnes in Kempſton, and Herringſhaugh, on the forfeiture of 10l. for any one to purſue the game therein, dated at Walſingham, March 15. In the ſaid reign John, cappellan. de Kempeſton, quit-claimed to the aforeſaid priory four acres in Tivedwode, and the tithe of two acres in Foxmere, by deed without date.

The prior in the 18th of Edward I. impleaded John de Harſike, lord of Dunham *Magna*, for taking ſixteen ſcore of ſheep on Dunham moor, where the prior had right of common, as belonging to his tenement in that town.

The temporalities of the priory in 1428 were valued at 8l. 9s.

At the diſſolution the prior of Caſtle Acre granted this lordſhip, with thoſe of Herringſhaugh, and Dykewood, by fine, to Henry VIII. in his 29th year, together with the rectory appropriated to his priory; and on December 22, in the ſaid year, the king conveyed them both to Thomas duke of Norfolk, with the advowſon of the vicarage; and in the 35th of that king the duke had licence to grant them to Roger Townſhend, and Thomas Townſhend had licence to alien them to Oſbert Mundeford in the 5th of Edward VI.

It was in the Townſhend family in the 4th of Elizabeth; and in or about the 15th of that queen Thomas Townſhend had livery of this manor, and the advowſon. In the 38th of the ſaid reign Thomas Townſhend, gent. aliened it to Edward Coke, eſq. then attorney general, and afterwards a knight and a judge; and his immediate heir and deſcendent, the right

right honorable the earl of Leiceſter, in 1759, died lord and patron.

The tenths of this village were 52s. Deducted 16s. 8d. The temporalities of Wendling abbey were 2s. 5d. ob. The church is a rectory, valued at ſix marks.

William the third earl Warren confirmed this grant of the church of Chemeſton, or Kempſton, with the appurtenances, which Wimer Dapifer had formerly given to the priory of Caſtle Acre, and Roger Buzun quitclaimed to the advowſon. Eborard biſhop of Norwich confirmed the appropriation of it to the priory. King John, by his charter, and Hubert archbiſhop of Canterbury, are alſo ſaid to have confirmed it.

In 1246, March 11, the endowment of the vicarage was ſettled, which was "to conſiſt in all the altarage, a manſe in all the free land of the ſaid church, in a tenement which Sewell and Agnes held of the ſaid land, in tithes of peaſe and beans, ſaving to the prior the reſidue of the great tithes, the vicar to be charged to all the dues of the biſhop and archdeacon."

In 1604 ſir Edward Coke had a grant of this rectory impropriate.—The preſent value of the vicarage is 4l. 18s. 4d. and is diſcharged of firſt-fruits, &c.

In 1755 the Rev. Thomas George was preſented to this vicarage by the late earl of Leiceſter, then baron Lovell.

William

William Heard, eſq. reſides at his ſeat in this town, which is pleaſantly on the ſouth banks of the river Nar.

Thomas William Coke, eſq. of Holkham, is the preſent lord and patron of this pariſh.

LEXHAM, EAST, was wrote Lecceſham in Doomſday-book.—EAST LEXHAM MANOR. The principal lordſhip of this village was in king Edward's reign poſſeſſed by Oſchetel, and afterwards by Federic, but at the ſurvey William earl Warren held it in *capite* for a manor, valued always at 40*s.* per ann.

This William, the firſt earl Warren, granted this lordſhip, and many others, to Wimerus, his *dapifer*, whoſe poſterity enjoyed it, and from them it came to the Stuteviles, Foliots, Haſtings, and to the le Stranges; Hamon le Strange, eſq. died poſſeſſed of it in the 22d of Elizabeth, and Thomas was found his ſon and heir.

Sir Philip Wodehouſe, of Kimberley, and Griſſel, his wife, daughter of William Yelverton, eſq. of Rougham, and late widow of Thomas le Strange, eſq. of Hunſtanton, held it in the 31ſt of Elizabeth, and Edmund Wodehouſe, eſq. ſecond ſon of ſir Philip Wodehouſe, dying lord without iſſue in 1727, it came to his nephew, the late ſir John Wodehouſe, bart. whoſe ſon, ſir Armine Wodehouſe, many years repreſentative in parliament for this county, was lord and patron; but dying at Kimberley in 1777, it devolved to his eldeſt ſon and heir, the preſent ſir John Wodehouſe, bart. colonel of the Eaſt Norfolk regiment.

ROUSE'S MANOR. The manor alſo of Hermerus de Ferrarijs, anceſtor of the lords Bardolph, in Litcham, extended into this town, and this part was held by ſir Richard le Rouſe in the reign of Henry III. who dying in the 6th year of Edward I. Alan, his ſon and heir, is ſaid to have been born and baptized in this town. In the 15th of that king Alan had view of frank-pledge, aſſize of bread and beer of his tenants here, and in the 3d of Edward III. held here, in Dunham, &c. one fee of lord Bardolph.

After the Rouſes it came to the Lexhams, a family that took their name from this village. Richard de Lexham lived in the 8th of Richard I. when William de Huntingfield conveyed ſixty acres of land to him in this town, and William de Lexham gave the monks of Caſtle Acre all the tithes of his land, called Raleſwode.

In the 14th of Edward II. Edmund de Lexham, of Beeſton, paſſed lands in Eaſt and Weſt Lexham, Newton, and Dunham *Magna*. This Edmund was lord of alſo of Pudding-Norton, by Fakenham, and was living in the 20th of Edward III.

Soon after this it came probably by marriage, or heirſhip, to the Mundfords; John de Mundford was lord of Pudding-Norton, and of this, in the 21ſt of Edward III.

By Mary, ſole daughter and heireſs of Oſbert Mundford, eſq. who died in 1456, it came by marriage to William Tindale, with the manors of Hockwold and Pudding-Norton, who was created knight at the creation of Arthur prince of Wales; and in 26th of Henry VIII. ſir Thomas Tindale, of Hockwold, knt. ſettled it on dame Winefrede, his wife, daughter

daughter of Thomas Cawſe, alderman of Norwich, widow.

In the 32d of Henry VIII. John Wright of Kilverſtone, died ſeiſed of the manor of Tindal's, and Rouſe's, in Eaſt Lexham, parcel of the poſſeſſions of ſir Thomas Tindale, and it was in the Wrights till John Wright, of Eaſt Lexham, ſold it about 1656 to ſir Philip Wodehouſe, in which family it remains, ſir John Wodehouſe, bart. being lord of the whole town, and patron of the church.

The temporalities of Caſtle Acre priory in 1428 were 3s. per ann. Thetford 5s. Langley abbey 8d. St. Faith's 15d. and of Weſtacre 5s.

Roger, *dapifer* to the earl Warren, ſon of William, lord of the honor of Greſſenhall, gave to the monks of Caſtle Acre one mark of ſilver out of his mill of Lexham, and alſo the ſaid mill, except 11s. which Baldwin de Frevile had in the ſaid mill: Baſilia, wife of Baldwin, gave them 2s. in pure alms, for the ſoul of her huſband, out of the 11s. rent paid by them for the aforeſaid mill, which grant ſhe laid upon the altar before witneſſes.

Sir Richard le Rouſe, of Eaſt Lexham, knight, gave them five acres in Lexham, at Mark-gate; alſo 12s. per ann. to be paid by his ſon, Ralph, of lands, called Cranweſwong, with his body to be buried in their church of Caſtle Acre priory.

Wimer, *dapifer* to the firſt earl Warren, gave the church of Eaſt Lexham to the priory of Caſtle Acre, with all the land belonging to the church, the tithe of his manor, and the advowſon; in the reign of Henry I. Drogo, ſon of William Dapifer, his deſcendant

ſcendant, confirmed it; and William de Stutevile acknowledged in the 40th of Henry III. before the king's juſtices, the right of patronage to be in the prior and convent of that houſe.

The ancient value of this church, which is a rectory, dedicated to St. Andrew, was ten marks; the preſent value is 8l. 5s. 11d ob. and is diſcharged of tenths, &c. The tenths of the town were 42s. Deduct 6s.

The prior of Caſtle Acre conveyed the patronage to Henry VIII. in his 29th year; and on December 22, in the ſaid year, the king granted it to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk.

In 1742 the Rev. Peter Smith was preſented to the rectory of Eaſt Lexham by the late ſir John Wodehouſe, bart.

The church is a ſingle pile, covered with lead, the chancel with glazed gutter tile, and has a four-ſquare ſteeple, embattled with brick.

In the chancel lies a grave-ſtone,—*In memory of William Alpe, who died in January*, 1629, *aged* 83.

Eaſt Lexham is a handſome ſeat of the Wodehouſes, and has been much improved by the preſent lord, who reſided here in his father's life-time. The houſe is ſituated near the road from Caſtle Acre to Litcham, and not far from the Lynn road.

LEXHAM, WEST. The two towns of Lexham had the additional names of Eaſt and Weſt ſince the conqueſt, being then called Leccesham, and Lechesham, from its ſcite on a bog, or lake, by the water.

At

At the ſurvey it was the lordſhip of Ralph de Beaufoe, and Ricard held it of him; but Fader was lord in the reign of the Confeſſor, when it was valued at 40s. afterwards at 3l. per ann. and a free-man had ſixty acres of land under Harold, &c. valued then at 5s. and after at 4s. the ſoc belonged to the king's manor of Mileham. Here was a church endowed with thirty acres, valued at 16d. the whole was one leuca long, and half a leuca broad, and paid 7d. halfpenny gelt.

Ralph de Caineto, or Cheyney, was lord, as was John, his ſon, whoſe ſiſter and coheireſs, Sibil, married William Fitz-Robert, who left three daughters and coheireſſes; Margaret, the firſt wife of Hugh de Creſſi, afterwards of Robert Fitz-Roger; Clementia, of Jordan de Sackvile; and Sarah, of Richard Engaine; but in 1217 their rights herein were releaſed to Margaret de Creſſi, and ſo it came entirely into that family. "But (ſays Parkin) it is more probable that this manor was not in the Creſſis till Roger de Creſſi, ſon of Hugh, obtained it on his marriage with Iſabel, daughter and coheireſs of Hubert de Rie, in the 9th of king John, and died poſſeſſed of it in the 30th of Henry III. in right of his wife, Ralph de Beaufoe's daughter and heireſs being married to Hubert de Rie, caſtellan of Norwich."

About the end of Henry III. *anno* 1268, that king is ſaid to have granted to William de Valentia, and his heirs, the manor of Weſt Lexham, Filby, Poſtwick, &c. in Norfolk, which came to him as an eſcheat; and in the 3d of Edward I. the ſaid William de Valentia, earl of Pembroke, claimed the aſſize, free-warren, &c. in this lordſhip; he was ſon of Hugh de Brun, earl of March, in France, by Iſabel, his wife, widow of John king of England, ſole daughter

ter to the earl of Angoleſme, and took his name from the place of his nativity, and being brother by his mother to Henry III. was ſent for into England, together with Guy de Lezinian, his elder brother, and had a grant of many lordſhips, and through the influence of the king married Joan, daughter of William, and ſiſter and heireſs to her brother, William de Monchenſi, great barons of this realm, by whom he had three ſons, but was ſucceeded in his honor and inheritance by the youngeſt, Aymer, or Adamore de Valentia, earl of Pembroke, who held this town in *capite* by the ſervice of three carrats of gold *(unum obolum aurj)* per ann. He attended queen Iſabel of England into France, and was on June 23, 1323, murthered there, and dying without iſſue. this lordſhip was delivered in the 19th of Edward III. to David de Strabolgi, earl of Athol, ſon of John de Strabolgi, earl of Athol, in Scotland, (executed as a traitor in the 34th of Edward I.) David, the ſon, being reſtored in blood, and a great favorite in the reign of Edward II. and having married Joan, daughter of John Comyn, (by Joan, his wife, one of the ſiſters and coheireſſes of Adamore aforeſaid, earl of Pembroke) and ſiſter and coheireſs of John Comyn, lord of Badenagh.

In this family it continued till the death of David de Strabolgi, earl of Athol, October 10, in the 49th of Edward III. who had been ſummoned to parliament as a baron in the 39th, 42d, &c. of that king, and ſerved in the wars in France, leaving by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Henry lord Ferrers, of Groby, two daughters and coheireſſes, Elizabeth, and Philippa.

Elizabeth, the eldeſt daughter, married ſir Thomas Percy; the ſaid ſir Thomas had livery in the 1ſt of Richard

Richard II. of that purparty of inheritance which came to her from the earl of Pembroke. This Elizabeth, in an old writing, is called widow of ſir Thomas Percy, junior, in the 12th of Richard II. and then granted to ſir John de Halſham, and Philippa, his wife, (her ſiſter and coheireſs) her right herein: it is ſaid that ſhe proved her age in the 5th of Edward III. and in the next year married ſir Thomas Percy, and remarried John le Scroop, and was his wife in the 15th of Richard II.

Philippa, the youngeſt ſiſter and coheireſs, is ſaid by Dugdale to marry ſir Ralph Percy, brother to ſir Thomas, younger ſons of the earl of Northumberland, and afterwards ſir John Halſham, by whom ſhe had John Halſham, who was heir to this lordſhip in the 19th of Richard II. and appears to be lord in the 3d of Henry V.

Sir Hugh de Halſham died ſeiſed of it in the 20th of Henry VI. Petronilla, his ſecond wife, ſurviving, leaving Joan (daughter and heireſs of Richard Halſham, his brother, and wife of John Lewkenor, eſq.) his heireſs; and it was ſettled by John Lewkenor, of Suſſex, on Thomas Randolph, with the manors of Filby, Poſtwick, and Stifky. Soon after this it came to the Boleyns, of Blickling, and ſir William Boleyn died poſſeſſed of it in 1505.

Edward VI. in his ſecond year granted licence to ſir James Boleyn to alien it to John Calibut, eſq. and his heirs, with a fold-courſe in this town, Eaſt Lexham, Dunham *Magna*, Newton, and Caſtle Acre. In the 12th of Elizabeth his ſon, John Calibut, eſq. died at Upton, in Northamptonſhire, October 23, lord of this manor, and left four daughters and coheireſſes, Margaret, Ann, Suſan, and Elizabeth, amongſt whom

it

it was divided; but in the 2d of James I. ſir Edward Coke was lord of the whole, and his deſcendant, the right honorable the earl of Leiceſter, died lord in 1759. Thomas William Coke, eſq. of Holkham, is the preſent lord.

The earl Warren's manor of Eaſt Lexham extended into this town, and Roger, who was *dapifer* to earl Warren, and lord, gave to the monks of Caſtle Acre one mark per ann. rent out of his mill at Lexham, ſituate on the weſt ſide of the town.

Richard de Sancto-Claro, or St. Clare, gave the ſaid monks his right in the church in free alms for ever, with all the liberties thereto belonging.

The church is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and was given to the priory of Peterſton. The biſhop of Norwich granted (or appropriated) to the ſaid priory (to relieve their poor eſtate) the church of Weſt Lexham of their patronage, to be poſſeſſed to their own uſe, except the vicarage; the prior to have all the tithe of grabs, with a moiety of the land, and meſſuage, belonging to the church, dated at Creak, Auguſt 4, 1259; and in 1265 the ſaid biſhop confirmed to the priory of Caſtle Acre the tithes of the land, called Kalveſwide, of the demeſne of William de Lexham, alſo two parts of the tithe of the demeſne formerly Roger de Creſſi's, in this town.

An agreement was made in 1299 between the prior of Caſtle Acre and his convent, and the prior and convent of Peterſton, "that whereas the monks of Caſtle Acre had lett to farm to the monks of Peterſton, and their ſucceſſors, two parts of all the tithes of the demeſnes formerly Roger de Creſſi's, and William de Lexham's, and all the land, called Rabnelwod,

belonging to the monaſtery of Caſtle Acre, lying in Weſt Lexham, for 40s. per ann. to be paid to the monks of Caſtle Acre for the uſe of the ſacriſt, at two terms; and on default of payment the monks of Peterſton were liable to be *excommunicated* by the biſhop of Norwich; for the non-payment of the ſaid 40s. they tied all their lands and tenements in Rougham to be ſeized, and their goods diſtrained by the earl Warren's bailiffs, or the bailiff of the ſheriff of Norfolk for the time being."

The rectory was anciently valued at five marks, the vicarage at 40s. and the tenths of the town at 1l. 14s.—Deduct 8s. 8d.

The prior and convent of Peterſton had the preſentation till that houſe was united to the priory of Walſingham, in 1446.

In 1517 the rector was preſented by the prior and convent of Caſtle Acre, when it is ſaid to be a rectory, valued at eight marks; but in 1555 by Thomas duke of Norfolk, who had a grant of the advowſon from Henry VIII. on the diſſolution of the priory, December 22, *anno* 29.

In 1661 ſir Philip Wodehouſe, bart. preſented; and in 1742 the Rev. Thomas George was preſented by the late ſir John Wodehouſe, bart. Mr. George is the preſent rector, and ſir John Wodehouſe, bart. of Kimberley and Eaſt Lexham, patron; it is valued at 5l. 11s. 6d. ob. and is diſcharged of tenths, &c.

The church is a ſingle pile, with a chancel covered with thatch, and a round tower at the weſt end.

LITCHAM is a conſiderable village on the road from Lynn-Regis, 17 miles, to Norwich 24, and through which the road from Eaſt Dereham to Maſſingham, Houghton, Snettiſham, and Hunſtanton, paſſes.

NETHERHALL MANOR. Part of this town was a beruite, or manor, depending on the capital manor, or honor of Mileham, held by Stigand, archbiſhop of Canterbury, a lay fee in his own right, and was deprived of it by the Conqueror, and farmed of him by William de Noiers; it was valued in Mileham.

Soon after this Alan, ſon of Flaald, to whom the Conqueror granted the manor of Mileham, had alſo this with it, as an appendix to, or part of the ſaid manor. This Alan was anceſtor of the noble family of the Fitz-Alans, earls of Arundel, and lords of this manor, and of Mileham, to which town for a more particular account of them we refer the reader.

Alan granted it to Sewald, with the hundreds of South Greenhoe and Launditch, to hold of him and his heirs; of this Sewald was John le Strange deſcended, who in the 52d of Henry III. held here one fee, was of age, and *not* a knight; and in the 55th of Henry III. having impleaded the rector of Litcham for keeping the evidences of his lordſhip from him, releaſed the action by deed, dated at Knockin, which ſhows that this family was related to that of Knockin, in Shropſhire: by Iſabella, his wife, he had two ſons, John, and Ralph; John, the eldeſt, married Clementia, relict of Jordan de Sackvile, and daughter of ſir William de Burgh.

In the 14th of Edward I. Baldwin de Frevile had ſome intereſt here, in Wellingham, and Weaſenham.

In the 15th of that king he claimed frank-pledge by the view of the king's bailiff, aſſize, and waif and ſtray, in this manor. The principal manor continued in the le Stranges. of Litcham. Of this family was Alice, daughter of ſir John le Strange, to whom ſir John Gedding ſold for ſixty-three marks all the meſſuages, lands, homages, rents, &c. in this town, by deed without date.

After this we find it in the family of de Felton, who had an intereſt here in the reign of Henry III. when Robert de Felton held half a fee of John le Strange de la Marche, that is, of the marſhes in Wales, &c. and John of the Fitz-Alans, lords of Mileham; and in the 25th year of Edward I. Robert de Felton had the grant of a market every week at his manor of Litcham, and a fair yearly on the day and morrow of the feaſt of All Saints, with free-warren; this ſeems to be that Robert who was knighted at Weſtminſter about this time, with three hundred young gentlemen, ſons of noblemen and knights, on the feaſt of Pentecoſt, with great ſolemnity, at the high altar in the abbey church, on the creation of the king's ſon prince of Wales, who was knighted alſo with them; and John de Felton was lord in the 9th of Edward II.

Sir Thomas Felton, ſenior, granted in the 5th of Edward III. to Richard de Lambeth, citizen of London, 40l. per ann. out of his manor of Litcham; and in the 20th of that king Sibill de Felton held half a fee of the earl of Arundel; ſir Thomas de Felton, knight of the garter, died ſeiſed of it in or about the 4th of Richard II. with the advowſon of the church, and Mary, his eldeſt daughter, was married to ſir Edmund Hengrave, and Sibilla, to ſir Thomas de Morley:

ley: ſir Thomas Felton was governor of Aquitain, in France, and taken priſoner in 1377.

It does not appear that either Hengrave or Morley had any intereſt in this lordſhip.

Joan de Felton, widow of ſir Thomas, held it in the 4th of Henry IV. by half a fee, of the earl of Arundel; and on her death it came to Cecilia, daughter of John Breton, eſq. of Witchingham *Magna*, by Mary, his wife, daughter of ſir Hamon de Felton, who releaſed to ſir Thomas Erpingham, and his heirs, all her right in the manor of Felton, called Netherhall, in Litcham, and in the advowſon of the church, in the 10th of the aforeſaid king.

In the pedigree of the Wodehouſes, of Kimberley, "Sir Edward Wodehouſe, who lived in the reign of "Richard II. *anno* 1378, is ſaid to have married a "daughter and coheireſs of ——— Erpingham," and that one of the family married Joan, a daughter and coheireſs of ſir Thomas Erpingham, who brought the manor of Netherhall, in this town, into the family, is certain; but as ſir Thomas Erpingham was living in the reigns of Henry V. and VI. and died in 1426, it could not be his daughter and coheireſs, Joan, who married the aforeſaid ſir Edward Wodehouſe.

John Wodehouſe, eſq. famous in the wars of France, at Agincourt, &c. was an intimate friend and fellow-ſoldier with Erpingham, being grandſon of ſir Edward Wodehouſe aforeſaid, and died in 1439.

This lordſhip is now the property of ſir John Wodehouſe, bart. of Kimberley, and Eaſt Lexham.

EAST-HALL was in the days of king Edward the lordſhip of Turchetel; but on the conqueſt was granted to Hermerus de Ferrarijs, anceſtor of the lords Bardolph, barons of Wormegay; and William held it under Hermerus, and half a carucate, &c. in Weaſenham-Thorpe, valued at 50s. and 10s. over; the whole was eight furlongs long, and ſix broad, including a manor in Rougham, and paid 7d. gelt.

This lordſhip of the lord Bardolph's extended alſo into Dunham *Magna*, and Eaſt Lexham; that part of it which was in the town ſeems to be held by ſir John Gedding, and conveyed by him to Alice, daughter of ſir John le Strange, for ſixty-three marks, by deed without date.

In the 8th of Richard II. Thomas Gardiner, eſq. lord of Giſſing, held in right of his wife, Cecilia, daughter of John Breton, eſq. a fourth part of this lordſhip; and in the 9th of the ſaid king John Petere, of Long Stratton, had the manor of Eaſt-hall, in Litcham, &c. in right of Claricia, his wife.

Sir John Tiptoft held in right of his wife, Jocoſa, the third part of this manor, 180 acres of land, &c. by the 40th part of a fee; the lady Jocoſa was a daughter and coheireſs of Edward Cherlton, lord Powys, by Alianore, his wife, daughter of Thomas, and ſiſter and coheireſs to Edmund Holland, earl of Kent, widow of Roger Mortimer, earl of March; Joan, the other daughter and coheireſs of Edward lord Powys, was married to ſir John Grey.

After this it came to ſir Thomas Erpingham, who was lord of the whole, and by his daughter and coheireſs, Joan, to ſir Edward Wodehouſe, who in the 18th

18th of Edward IV. was lord of Eaſt-hall- and Netherhall.

The temporalities of the prioreſs of Carrowe in 1428 were 6d.—Weſtacre 6d.—Caſtle Acre 6d.

Agnes, widow of Ralph le Strange, of Litcham, gave to Caſtle Acre priory 2s. rent per ann. and the prior granted to Michael Harold, of Tittleſhall, ſix acres of land in Litcham, paying 3s. per ann.

"The town (ſays Mr. Parkin) takes its name from the river Leche*, or Litch, that runs by it, as Lechelade in Glouceſterſhire, &c." It is wrote in Doomſday-book Licham, and Letham, and has ſince been ſpelt Lucham, Lutcham, and Lycham.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, is a neat, regular pile, with a nave, covered with reed, a north and ſouth aile, and a chancel, covered with lead; at the weſt end of the nave a ſquare tower of brick, with coins of free-ſtone, and embattled, with a clock and dial, built by Matthew Halcot, a tanner, who new caſt the bells, and gave the clock.

In the nave lie ſeveral grave-ſtones;—*In memory of Philippa, wife of John Baly, and relict of Edward Girling, gent. who died Auguſt* 24, 1752, *aged* 52.

For John Neale, gent. ſon of John Neale, merchant, in Wiſbeach, and uncle to the late excellent rector of this pariſh, who died February 12, 1727, *aged* 66.

* The name of the river which runs by Litcham never exiſted but in the *imagination* of the reverend author.—The river is now known by the Nar.

In memory of Hellen Lawrence, widow, who died January 16, 1741, *aged* 88 *years; and near to her lieth Matthew Halcot, and Francis Lawrence, gent. her two husbands.*

For Matthew Halcot, gent. who died in 1688, *ætat.* 36,—with a Latin inſcription.——And one for—*Matthew Halcot, gent. who died Auguſt* 7, 1707, *aged* 34.

Againſt the wall of the tower, fronting the nave, a mural monument of marble,—*In memory of John Glover, gent. erected by Martha, his widow, who to perpetuate his memory has given* 40s. *per ann. payable out of lands in this pariſh, by the miniſter and churchwardens, to the poor thereof, on the feaſt day of St. John the Evangeliſt; he died May* 23, 1741, *in his* 48*th year*,—with his arms on the ſummit.

In the chancel a ſtone,—*In memory of John Waſtell, gent. of this pariſh, who died April* 19, 1710, *aged* 73. —*For John Waſtell, gent. who died July* 13, 1732, *aged* 54.

One,—*In memory of Edward Girling, late of Litcham, gent. ſon of Edward and Ann Girling, of Norwich, who died March* 27, 1736, *aged* 30,—and his ſhield.

In the rails of the communion-table a grave-ſtone, —*In memory of William Neale, the late worthy rector of this pariſh, and vicar of Kempſton, ſon of John Neale*, late rector of Mileham, who died June* 30, 1741, *aged* 56.

An

* This John left 2s. weekly to poor perſons, and their dwelling-houſe.

An altar monument in the church-yard,—*Reliquiæ Joh. Halcot, gen. qui mortem obt. apud Lenne, 22 die Martij, A. D.* 1678.

Another,—*Corpus Matth. Halcot, gen. qui hanc vitam meliori commutavit* 30 *July*, 1675, *ætat. ſuæ* 75, *cujus ſumptibus hoc campanile penitus conſtructum fuit, &c.* 1669.

Alſo,—*Hic jacet corpus Joh. Halcot, armig. de Medio Temple, Londinenſi, quond. ſocij, filij Matt. Halcot, &c. qui dedit lagenam, et calicem argent. altari hujus eccleſiæ, natus* 1648, *obt.* ----- *æt.* 33.

The ancient value of the church of Litcham, with the portion of the prior of Caſtle Acre, was ten marks; the preſent value is 9l. 2s. 6d.

In 1741 the Rev. Peter Smith was preſented to this rectory by ſir John Wodehouſe, bart. of Kimberley, deceaſed.

Dame Mary Wodehouſe, relict of ſir Roger, in 1634, left 3l. per ann. to the prior, and William Allee 40s. per ann.

On the common in this pariſh was anciently an hermitage.

Litcham was certainly a market town, and better inhabited than it now is. If we miſtake not it has once ſuffered by fire. It has one fair annually held on 1ſt of November. Here is a poſt-office, and inn, the Bull; and was the road from Lynn this way to Norwich made *turnpike*, this village, as well as the country adjacent, would derive great benefit.

LONGHAM

LONGHAM is not mentioned in Doomſday-book, being part of the great manor of Mileham, and there accounted for. About the end of the reign of Henry III. Iſabel le Strange, Richard le Denys, and Nicholas de Scarning, held lands here of the fee of the lord of Mileham. In the 15th of Edward I. John le Strange had the aſſize, waif, &c. of his tenants, and Iſabel le Strange, widow, in the 34th of that king conveyed it to Ralph de Bagthorpe, who occurs lord in the 9th of Edward II.

Thomas Gunton, who gave name to this lordſhip, poſſeſſed it in the 20th of Edward III. and in the 17th of Edward IV. John de Boking, who married Cecilia, daughter and heireſs of William de Narburgh, died ſeiſed of it in her right; Richard de Boking, eſq. his ſon, held it of the honor of Mileham, and died in 1505. Catherine, his daughter, was the wife of John Heydon in the 35th of Henry VIII.

In the 25th of Elizabeth Edward Leverok, gent. and Oliver Buckenham, had a *præcipe* to deliver to Thomas Overend, and Richard Atkins, Langham-hall, Gunton's, and New-hall, in Longham. Soon after this it came to ſir Edward Coke, lord chief juſtice, and the right honorable the late earl of Leiceſter, his deſcendant, died lord in 1759. Thomas William Coke, eſq. of Holkham, is the preſent lord.

Thomas Potter granted by fine to Robert Potter, and Claricia, his wife, in the 29th of Edward III. the fourth part of a fee, late Deny's, and ſoon after it was held by James Brice, of Thrandeſton, and Iſabel, his wife, and of Edward le Blound, and Elizabeth, his wife, who were coheireſſes.

Hermerus

Hermerus de Ferrarijs at the ſurvey had ſeiſed on the lands of a free-man *in Lawingham*, valued at 5s. per ann. but the ſoc was in the lord of Mileham, in the king. Hermerus was anceſtor of the lords Bardolph.

Robert de Watlington, who gave name to this manor, held it in the reign of Henry III. by the fourth part of a fee, of the lord Bardolph.

Jeffrey Bruſſyard died poſſeſſed of it about the 3d of Edward III. and one of the ſame name was lord in the 3d of Henry IV. John Fuller had a *præcipe* to render it to Arthur Scarlet, with a ſheep-fold, called Prior's, in this town.

Soon after this the whole intereſt came to ſir Edward Coke, and the earl of Leiceſter died lord of the whole town in 1759; his deſcendant and heir, Thomas William Coke, eſq. of Holkham, knight of the ſhire, is the preſent lord and patron of the church.

The tenths were 2l. 15s.—Deducted 7s.—Wendling abbey temporalities 9s. 6d.—Walſingham 1l. 10s.

The church was a rectory, valued at thirteen marks; it ſtands by itſelf, near the road from Eaſt Dereham to Litcham.

Robert de Kaam, and Joan, his wife, John de Florence, and Sibilla, his wife, coheireſſes, releaſed by fine to William de Wendling one acre of land, with the advowſon; the ſaid William gave it to Wendling abbey, to which it was appropriated, the church being dedicated to St. Peter.

In the 4th of Elizabeth Arthur Futter had a grant of the impropriated rectory, poſſeſſed by William Futter in the 35th of Elizabeth, and it came ſoon after to ſir Edward Coke.

In 1775 the Rev. Thomas Wigg Handcock, of Norwich, was preſented to this curacy of Longham, by the late Wenman Coke, eſq. repreſentative in parliament for the county of Norfolk.

The church is a decent building, with a ſquare tower, and two bells. The hall ſtands a little ſouth of it, and the village lies ſcattered up and down the pariſh, like moſt other towns in Norfolk.

MILEHAM. The capital manor of this town belonged to Stigand the archbiſhop of Canterbury (in his own right) in the reign of Edward the Confeſſor; but on his being depoſed by William the Conqueror, it came into his hands, and William de Noiers held, or farmed it of that king at the ſurvey.—*Meleham.*

It was a very conſiderable lordſhip, and eſteemed as an honor, containing in Stigand's time lands, &c. valued in the whole, with its beruite, &c. at 30l. in king Edward's time, and at 60l. quit-rent at the ſurvey*; it was three leucas long, and one broad, whoever held it to farm.

" Mell, or Mill, gives name to many towns. Melbourn, in Cambridgeſhire; Melford, in Suffolk; Milford,

* It is not to be thought that all this was in Mileham, but lying in other townſhips, alſo depending on this capital manor, or honor, as beruites belonging to it, viz. Litcham, Dunham, &c. are valued with this lordſhip, and paid 27d. to a 30s. gelt.

Milford, in Hertfordſhire; and Milbrooke, in Bedfordſhire."—*Parkin.*

This William de Noiers was a great favorite of the Conqueror's; he took care of, or farmed under him, 34 lordſhips in this county.

At the ſurvey we ſee that king William was lord of this manor; but ſoon after Alan, ſon of Flaald, obtained it by the gift, or purchaſe, of the Conqueror, alſo the caſtle of Oſweſtry, in Shropſhire, with the territory adjoining, which belonged to Meredith ap-Blethyn, a Welſhman, or ancient Briton, and marrying the daughter and heireſs of Warine, ſheriff of that county, had, in her right, the barony of the ſaid Warine. Alan and his father attended the Conqueror into England.

This Alan gave to the monks of Caſtle Acre lands, and the orchard, (*fruteſtam*) which they incloſed at Kempſtone, and twenty acres at Sporle, and 3s. rent out of his mill at Newton.

William Fitz-Alan was his ſon and heir, and married Iſabel, daughter and heireſs of Helias de Say, niece to Robert earl of Glouceſter, lady of Clun, in Shropſhire, in whoſe right he became baron of Clun, by whom he had William, his ſon and ſucceſſor, who in the 12th of Henry II. certified his knights fees to be in number thirty-five and an half, nineteen *de veteri feoffamento*, and ſixteen and an half *de novo*, and died about the 19th of that king, leaving William Fitz-Alan his ſon and heir, who died about the 16th of king John.

In this year Thomas de Erdington gave 5000 marks for the wardſhip and marriage of his ſon and heir,

heir, William Fitz-Alan, to his daughter; but dying ſoon after, John, his brother, ſucceeded.

This John Fitz-Alan, lord of Clun, married to his firſt wife Iſabel, ſiſter and coheireſs to Hugh, and ſecond daughter and coheireſs of William de Albiny, earl of Arundel, by whom he had John, his ſon and heir, and died in the 24th of Henry III. 1240.

On a partition of the lands of Hugh earl of Arundel in the 28th of Henry III. this John Fitz-Alan had the caſtle of Arundel, in Suſſex, aſſigned unto him; and it appears that he had in the 34th of that king a park in his manor of Mileham,. In the 49th of the ſaid king he had an order from the king to ſend to him his ſon and heir, (then in cuſtody of Simon de Montfort) to deliver up his caſtle of Arundel into Simon's cuſtody, to ſecure the peace of the kingdom, and died in the 52d of that king, leaving iſſue by Maud, his wife, John, his ſon and heir, *according to Dugdale.*

In the 51ſt of Henry III. the ſheriff accounted for 101s. and 6d. rent of aſſize of this manor, &c. late John Fitz-Alan's, "from Saturday, the feaſt of All Saints, to the 6th of December," when he delivered it to Maud, his widow.

This John left Richard Fitz-Alan, his ſon and heir, and this manor was found to be ancient demeſne, held by one knight's fee, the cuſtody of it being granted to John le Strange by the king, during the non-age of Richard, the heir.

About this time no leſs than ſeventy-ſix fees are accounted to belong to the honor of Arundel, in this county.

This

This Richard appears to be the firſt of the Fitz-Alans who bore the title of earl of Arundel, as lord of that caſtle, without any formal creation, or other inveſtiture, and as lord of this town had in the 3d of Edward I. aſſize of bread and beer, a gallows, and other royal privileges. In the 15th of this king the lord of the manor had view of frank-pledge, the aſſize, a tumbrell, gallows, pillory, toll, and theam; and in the ſaid year had orders to provide 600 able footmen, well armed, for the Welſh expedition, againſt Rice ap-Meredith, then in rebellion, and that he ſhould, with the other baron-marchers, be reſident on their lands, with men ready armed; and in the 23d of this king to be at Plymouth, on the feaſt of All Saints, to attend Edmund, the king's brother, into Gaſcoigne, the king ſending the ſteward of his houſe, and his clerk, to appraiſe their horſes, to pay them their wages, and perform other things for their paſſage.

This Richard was the ſeventh earl who ſigned the letter to the pope, in the 29th of Edward I. "denying that the kingdom of Scotland was his fee, or that he had any thing to do in temporal matters," dated February 12, 1301, and died ſeiſed of this manor, and that of Beeſton, in the 20th of Edward I. held in *capite* by one knight's fee, valued at 57l. 5s. 9d. per ann. and Edmund was his ſon and heir, by Alizon, daughter of the marquis of Saluce, in Italy.

Edmund earl of Arundel was a great favorite of Edward II. and being taken at Briſtol on queen Iſabel's arrival into England with an armed power, was there beheaded before the gates of the caſtle, in ſight of the king, in October, 1326, leaving by Alice, his wife, ſiſter and heireſs of John earl Warren and Surry, Richard, his ſon and heir. On Edmund's attainder

attainder and death this manor of Mileham, with the caſtle of Arundel, was granted Auguſt 8, in the 1ſt year of Edward III. to John de Eltham, the king's brother.

It is ſaid in the grant to be in the occupation of Gilbert de Glencarn, for life; but Richard, ſon of Edmund, being reſtored in parliament in the 4th of Edward III. had livery of this manor, &c. and in the 19th of that king married Alianore, daughter of Henry Plantagenet, earl of Lancaſter, widow of John lord Beaumont, and died January 24, 1376.

By an original inventory of his goods, ſtill remaining amongſt the evidences of the duke of Norfolk, it appears that he had in money, in gold and ſilver, 44981 marks, and with that and what he had in other places, the whole ſum amounted to 108367 marks 13s. 3d. ob.—a moſt ſurpriſing ſum in that age, and the more ſo, if we conſider that a mark then was of the intrinſic triple value of the money now current; a pound weight of ſilver then was but of the value of 20s. whereas now a pound weight makes 3l. of our money*, and if we conſider alſo how much proviſion, &c. a mark would then buy beyond what it does at preſent. By his will he deviſed three of his coronets, his beſt to lord Richard Fitz-Alan, his ſon and heir. He had alſo a daughter, Alianore, (not mentioned by Dugdale) married to John de Bereford.

In the 13th of Richard II. Richard earl of Arundel and Surry ſubſcribed the letter to pope Boniface, "complaining of the great miſchiefs to the kingdom by papal proviſions to benefices, and other papal grievances;"

* By this criterion alone we find that the ſum amounts to 216,735l.

ances;" but this earl, by the iniquity of thoſe times, was beheaded in Cheapſide, London, in 1393, the king himſelf being a ſpectator, and Thomas Mowbray earl marſhal; the earl of Nottingham being his executioner, and binding up his eyes, leaving Thomas his ſon and heir, by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of William de Bohun, earl of Northampton.

On his attainder this manor ſeems to have been granted to Thomas of Woodſtock, duke of Glouceſter, the king's uncle, and after to Edmund de Langley, duke of York, the king's uncle, with the hundreds of Launditch and South Greenhoe, and the manor of Beeſton.

Theſe were part of the poſſeſſions of Thomas duke of Glouceſter, atttainted; but on the acceſſion of Henry IV. to the crown, in 1399, Thomas, ſon and heir of Richard Fitz-Alan, the late earl, was reſtored in blood, and to all his lands and honors, by parliament.

In the 3d of Henry IV. ſir John Harſick held in Mileham, and Dunham, half a fee of this earl, who bore quarterly the arms of Fitz-Alan, or Arundel, and the earl Warren; creſt, an eagle's head couped, iſſuing out of a ducal coronet, between two wings erect, and married Beatrix, a natural daughter of the king of Portugal, but died without iſſue, October 13, 1415.

On the death of this earl his honor and inheritance, by virtue of an entail, came to ſir John Fitz-Alan, *alias* Arundel, lord Maltravers.

This John earl of Arundel married Alianore, daughter of ſir John Berkley, of Beverſton, in Glouceſterſhire, and dying April 29, in the 9th year of Henry V. left two ſons, John and William.

John, his ſon and heir, was earl of Arundel, and died in France, May 12, in the 13th of Henry VI. being wounded by a culverine ſhot, and had a ſon, who dying in his minority, William Fitz-Alan, his uncle, ſucceeded him, and inherited the earldom and eſtate of the family; he died in the 3d year of Henry VII. and Thomas was his ſon and heir, by Joan, his wife, daughter of Richard Nevill, earl of Saliſbury.

This Thomas earl of Arundel, by his deed, dated February 14, in the 19th of Henry VII. conſtituted Henry Fermour, of Barſham, in Gallow hundred, his feodary in the ſaid county.

On his death, October 25, 1524, William, his ſon and heir, by Margaret, daughter of Richard Woodvile, earl Rivers, ſucceeded to the earldom of Arundel and eſtates, and married Ann, daughter of Henry earl of Northumberland; he died January 23, in the 35th of Henry VIII. and was ſucceeded by his ſon and heir, Henry, conſtable of England at the coronation of queen Mary, and queen Elizabeth.

By Catherine, daughter of Thomas Grey, marquis of Dorſet, his firſt wife, he had Henry, his ſon, who married Anne, daughter and heireſs of ſir John Wentworth, of Goſfield, in Eſſex, and died at Bruſſels, without iſſue, in 1556, in his father's life-time, (who died February 25, in the 22d of Elizabeth); but many years before his death this Henry, the father, earl of Arundel, conveyed this lordſhip, with that of Beeſton,

to

to ſir Thomas Greſham, knt. of London, and had licence for ſo doing in the 1ſt year of queen Elizabeth.

Sir Thomas was lord in the 12th of Elizabeth; and after the death of ſir Thomas Greſham it was ſold by his executors to Stephen Barnwell, gent. or rather to Henry Baſtard, gent. who ſold it to the ſaid Stephen.

In 1580 lady Greſham offered this and Beeſton manor to be ſold for 3300l.

Stephen Barnwell, gent. deſcended from Thomas Barnwell, of Offaly, in Ireland, and by Blanch, his wife, daughter of Novegent, of Dublin, had Morry, Gerrard, and Thomas, who was of Lincoln's-inn, baron of the Exchequer, and married Alice, daughter of Dyvelin, maſter of the rolls, and was father of Thomas, Richard, and Robert, who lived at Lenton, in Northamptonſhire, and had a ſon and heir, Simon Barnwell, of Cranſley, in the ſaid county.

His ſon and heir, Thomas Barnwell, of Cranſley, married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Cradock, of Dingley, in the ſaid county, by whom he had Edward, who by Ann, his wife, daughter of John Spencer, of Bedfordſhire, gent. had Stephen Barnwell.

This Stephen purchaſed this lordſhip, and ſettled here, and by Mary, his wife, daughter of Nicholas Cotton, of Catworth *Parva*, in Huntingdonſhire, or rather daughter of Nicholas Calton, of Dulwich, in Surry, he left Edward Barnwell, eſq. of Mileham, who married May 6, 1618, at Elſing, Ann, daughter of ſir Thomas Playters, of Sotterley, in Suffolk, bart. and was father of Charles Barnwell, who by his wife,

a daughter and heireſs of Mr. Sydner, had his ſon and heir, Charles, who married Mary, daughter of Mr. Higham, of Barrow, in Suffolk, whoſe ſon, Edward, was lord in 1660. He left Charles Barnwell, eſq. who by his firſt wife, Elizabeth, daughter of John Neal, rector of Mileham, had the late Rev. Charles Barnwell, rector of Beeſton, and lord of Mileham, on whoſe demiſe it came to his ſon, Charles Barnwell, eſq. the preſent lord and patron.

Here was alſo a little lordſhip in this town, and Bittering, belonging to Alwin, a freeman, in the time of king Edward, and afterwards held by a certain widow, under Godric, who farmed it of the king; in the whole valued at 20s. at the ſurvey no value, and Godric then accounted for it. This was alſo granted by the Conqueror, after the ſurvey, to Alan, ſon of Flaald, and ſo became united to the aforeſaid manor.

Alſo here was another little lordſhip held by Alan earl of Richmond at the ſurvey, and in Stanfield, which the ſon of Almar held of Alan, and which two ſocmen under Stigand poſſeſſed in the reign of king Edward, conſiſting of lands, &c. valued at 10s. per annum.

Burghwood Manor. This lordſhip belonged to the earls of Richmond. Robert de Hulmo was lord in the reign of Henry III. and had free-warren in his lands at Witherſthorpe, in Mileham. Giles de Hulmo, ſon of Robert, claimed the aſſize and other liberties in the 15th of Edward I.

In

In the 20th of Edward III. Richard de Burwood, or Burghwood*, who gave name to it, held half a fee, late Giles de Hulmo's, paying 10s. rent to the honor of Richmond. It was in the hands of ſir Roger Beauchamp in the 3d of Henry IV.

In the 14th of Henry VI. John duke of Bedford died ſeiſed of one fee in this town, and Swaffham, held by ſir Roger Shoteſbrook, as parcel of the aforeſaid honor; and John St. John, and Joan, his wife, granted the manor of Burghwood, with three meſſuages, 840 acres of land, and 40s. rent in this town, Beeſton, and Tittleſhall, to ſir William Capel, knt. in the 4th of Henry VIII.

In the 1ſt of Edward VI. it was conveyed by fine from ſir Henry Capel to Roger Townſhend, of Rainham.

George Townſhend conveyed it in the 1ſt of Philip and Mary to Robert Coke; and his ſon, ſir Edward Coke, was lord, in which family it continued. Thomas earl of Leiceſter dying poſſeſſed of it in 1759, and Thomas William Coke, eſq. M. P. is the preſent lord.

The priory of Hempton, by Fakenham, had lands here.

Henry VIII. in his 35th year, granted to Richard Andrews thirty-nine acres of land, called the prior's lands, lying in the fields of Mileham, to be held *in capite*. In the 2d of Elizabeth Thomas Crowe held it, and Richard, his ſon, had licence in the 4th of

* The family of Burghwood were the keepers, or caſtellans, of the caſtle in this town, under the earls of Arundel.

that queen to alienate it to Chriſtopher Crowe, and the ſaid Chriſtopher held it in 22d of James I. Ralph Crowe died poſſeſſed of it in the 16th of Charles I. and left by Phillis, his wife, John, his ſon, a minor.

There was anciently a family who took their name from this town. George de Mileham had lands here about the 50th of Edward III.

This town is famous for the birth of ſir Edward Coke, lord chief juſtice of England, the moſt learned and greateſt lawyer of England, whoſe birth prognoſticated ſomething wonderful; his mother, ſitting by the fire-ſide, was ſo ſuddenly and quickly delivered of him, that ſhe had not time to be removed to a bed that was near—as ſir Edward informed ſir Henry Spelman.

Robert, his father, was lord of the manor of Burghwood, and had a grant of arms by Thomas Hawley, clarencieux, dated June 9, in the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary.—" Argent, on a chev'ron ingrailed, gules, between three tyger's heads eraſed, ſable, dented argent, and languid of the ſecond, collared or;—Creſt, on a wreath, argent and ſable, a turkey-cock proper, mantled gules, buttoned and taſſelled, or."—But it appears that ſir Edward Coke bore very different arms, as may be ſeen over the gate of the old houſe, viz. per pale, azure and gules, three eagles diſplayed, argent, impaling quarterly, in the firſt and fourth ermin, in the ſecond and third paly of ſix, or. and gules, in a bordure, azure, Knightley.

About the year 1600 here was a park, in which there was a great deal of timber ſold (as ſaid) by the acre, at 40s. or thereabouts per acre, and on every acre forty or ſixty good timber trees. This park ſeems

ſeems to have been on the left ſide of the road leading from Norwich to Lynn.

In the ſaid town was formerly a ſtrong caſtle, the ſcite of which is now part of the demeſnes of the manor of Mileham; it ſtood by the road ſide (on the left hand beyond the church) as above, being of an oval form, containing about twelve or thirteen acres, ſurrounded by two deep ditches, or trenches; in that part to the ſouth was the keep, with another ditch, where are ruins of walls that croſſed the ditch, and the north part was the barbican; the outward ditch and incloſure ſeems to have gone croſs the high-road, and to have incloſed the houſe and ground wherein ſir Edward Coke was born, as on each ſide of it, and behind it, may be obſerved; the entrance into it ſeems to have been on the weſt ſide.

The temporalities of Fakenham-dam priory were valued here in 1428 at 17s. 9d. per ann. and the tenths of the town were 3l. 16s. Deducted 16s.

The church of Mileham is dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt, and conſiſts of a nave, a north and ſouth aile, with a chancel, all covered with lead. On the weſt end of the north aile ſtands a four-ſquare tower, with four bells, and ſerves for a porch in the church.

In the chancel lie ſeveral grave-ſtones; one—*In memory of Mr. Fermor Pepys, ſome time of this pariſh, of a worthy deſcent, moſt happy nature, choiceſt education, a tried faith to God, a perſecuted church, a baniſhed prince, and his old friend; he was born and lived a gentleman, baptized and lived a Chriſtian, died a believer, and lives a ſaint, obt. Septr.* 22, 1660, *ætat.* 79.—*John Pepys died* 19 *January*, 1658, *ætat.* 27.

Edward Barnwell, gent. Nov. 30, 1666, *ætat.* 70.—*Charles Barnwell, gent. his grandſon, died December* 19, 1702, *ætat.* 49.

Anna, Caroli Ward, hujus eccleſiæ rectoris, uxor chariſſima, necnon Johan. Smith, in agro Suff. generoſi filia, obt. A. D. 1721, *ætat.* 53.

John Neale, ſome time rector, died May 18, 1704, *aged* 56.—*John, his eldeſt ſon, died February* 18, 1699, *aged* 22.—*Elizabeth, wife of Charles Barnwell, gent. and daughter of John Neale, late rector, died November* 19, 1705.

Barnwell impaling Berney;—*Maria, uxor Caroli Barnwell, armig. filia Dni. Tho. Berney, militis et baronetti, et D'næ Sacræ uxoris ejus obt.* 17 *Dec.* 1720, *ætat.* 48.

A ſtone,—*For four children of Thomas Browne, gent. and Elizabeth, his wife.*

In the eaſt window of the chancel,—quarterly, Arundel and Maltravers, impaling Bryan, and Buers: and in the ſouth window, the effigy of the Virgin teaching the child Jeſus to read; alſo of a man and woman on their knees; over their heads, *Peddar;* before them two horſes travelling, with packs on their backs, and under them, *Thomas Broun.*

Alſo a grave-ſtone, with the arms of Ward,—*Carolus Ward, quadraginta annos hujus eccleſiæ rector, migravit Aug.* 6, 1744, *ætat.* 82.—He gave 200l. to cloath the poor *annually*, three men and three women, in blue coats, at Chriſtmas, and the reſt to the poor.

In

In the north aile,—*William Burly, ob. Aug.* 19, 1669;—with the arms of Barnwell and Heigham.

In the ſouth aile,—*Robert Bradfield, of Mileham, gent. obt. Dec.* 3, 1669.

Of your charete p'y for the ſoul of Xtofer Crow, which deceſſyd the vii *day of Decr. anno D'ni.* xv°xxvi, *and Chriſtian, his wife*;—with their portraitures in braſs, and of four ſons and five daughters.

In the nave a grave-ſtone,—*In memory of John le Strange, eſq. third ſon of Sir Nicholas le Strange, bart. and Ann, the daughter of Sir Edward Lewnor, knt. who died July* 5, 1722, *aged* 86.—Alſo of—*William le Strange, gent. fourth brother of the ſaid John, who died October* 8, 1711, *aged* 73.—And alſo of—*Edward le Strange, gent. fifth brother, who died September* 24, 1715, *aged* 75.—And of—*Nicholas, ſon of the ſaid Edward*;—all interred in this church.

In the chancel are alſo lately placed ſeveral grave-ſtones, one,—*In memory of Elizabeth, wife of John Neale, clerk, late widow of William Jegon, clerk, who died May* 26, 1747, *ætat.* 58.

Another,—*In memory of Gibſon Neale, gent. who died April* 17, 1747, *in his* 59*th year*;—with the arms of Neale.——And for—*Sarah, his wife, who died July* 11, *in her* 57*th year.*

Henry Baſtard, gent. lord of the manor, died Auguſt 23, 1624, *aged* 62.

In the church-yard is raiſed on ſtone a curious lofty pillar for a croſs, very antique, but the upper part of it is now broke off; and by it, on the north ſide,

ſide, a free-ſtone altar-tomb, with a croſs carved thereon, finely flowered and ornamented, probably in memory of ſome prieſt.

Mr. Glover founded a ſchool here, depoſiting money in the hands of ſir Edward Coke for the ſame, who bought a piece of copyhold land, and a houſe, which had but one ſingle room, valued at 5s. per ann. and Mr. Ward, who died rector in 1744, built another room to it for the maſter to dwell in.

The church was anciently valued at thirty marks. The prior of Sporle had a penſion therein, valued at ſix marks per ann. Joan, wife to Henry IV. and queen dowager, died ſeiſed of it in the 15th of Henry VI. The preſent value is 11l. 2s. 1d. and pays firſt-fruits, &c.

The rectors were preſented by the earls of Arundel till 1565, when ſir Thomas Greſham, knt. was patron, after whom the Barnwells got the preſentation, and ſo continue.

In 1753 the Rev. Richard Drake was preſented to the rectory of Mileham by the late Rev. Charles Barnwell; and in 1775 he was a ſecond time preſented by Charles Barnwell, eſq. now lord and patron, who has an elegant ſeat in the village, at which he reſides. Edward Davy, eſq. alſo reſides at his ſeat in this village.

There was in the poſſeſſion of Mr. Forby, formerly rector of Beeſton, an ancient book, or roll, of all the good benefactors to the firſt building of the church of Mileham, and therein,—"Ye ſhall alſo pray and beſeech for the ſoul of ſir Walter Barnard, prieſt, the which purchaſed the freedom and cuſtoms of

of the town, gave and get much good to the town, wherefore God yield it to him at his moſt need, and ſend him part of all his good prayers."—We take the tomb in the church-yard to be in memory of this Walter, and that he alſo erected this croſs.

In this town are great remains (as appears from the ditches, entrenchments, &c.) of a curious and noble caſtle built by Alan, ſon of Flaald, to whom the Conqueror gave this great manor, honor, and barony, who was anceſtor of the Fitz-Alans, earls of Arundel, &c.

Mileham is a conſiderable village, lying on the road from Norwich by Lenwade-bridge, twenty-two miles; to Lynn-Regis nineteen miles: here the river Nar, which runs weſtward into the Ouſe, at Lynn, and a rivulet running eaſtward into the Wenſum, at Worthing, ariſes. The country about Mileham is well improved, and rather woody, but very pleaſant. Though that great luminary of the law, ſir Edward Coke, received birth here, we ſhall not reiterate what we have ſaid of him in Holkham, Tittleſhall, and other places, but refer our readers thereto.

KIRTLING, or KERTING. In the Conqueror's book of Doomſday we find a town, or place, of this name, held by Stigand in king Edward's time, and then in the Conqueror's hand, and farmed, or took care of for him, by William de Noiers; it was valued with Stigand's manor of Mileham, then in king Edward's hands, who afterwards gave it, with the manor of Mileham, to Alan, ſon of Flaald, anceſtor of the earls of Arundel.

The

The monks of Caſtle Acre held two parts of the tithes of William de Kirtling in the reign of Henry III.

This manor, or place, was valued in Mileham, as a beruite to it, and probably ſtood near to that town in this hundred, (where it is mentioned by the ſurvey) and as we find it named with certain other gifts in this hundred to the priory of Caſtle Acre, we have thought it proper here to inſert it.

William de Greſſinghall gave ſix acres of land in Kirtling, with the rent of 8d. per ann. to the ſaid priory; and William Hunter, of Greſſinghall, gave ſix acres in Kirtling, and the rent of 8d. per ann.

OXWICK, called anciently Ossuic, deriving its name from its ſcite on a wick, or turn of a ſtream, or rivulet, called Ouſe, as many rivers were in Norfolk, &c. from whence the inhabitants were ſtiled the Iceni, was a lordſhip belonging to the abbot of Ely, founded by St. Audrey, valued in the whole at 20s. per ann. Rainald, ſon of Ivo, held it of the abbot, but before of the king.

This was in the family of the Earlhams, of Earlham, by Norwich. In the 3d of Edward I. Ralph de Earlham claimed, as lord, the aſſize of bread and beer, &c. of his tenants here; and in the 10th of Edward I. William Sygar, of Oxwick, had an intereſt herein, they agreeing to preſent alternately; ſo that the lordſhip ſeems to conſiſt of two parts, or moieties; and in 1315 Nicholas Sygar, and Ralph de Earlham, were returned to be lords.

In the year 1389 Thomas Croft, of this town, granted to John de Burton, &c. the manor of Oxwick,

wick, called Sygar's. with the advowſon of the church; and in 1390 John Payne, of Helhoughton, releaſed to John de Burton his right in the ſaid manor and advowſon, and Henry Maupas preſented to the church in 1398.

In the 4th of Henry VI. William Billingford, eſq. was lord, and preſented in 1438.

In the 13th of Edward IV. Geffrey Rigby conveyed it to Henry Heydon, eſq. who preſented in 1481; after this it came to the Townſhends, ſir Roger Townſhend, knt. preſenting in 1542, and was ſold by Roger Townſhend, eſq. to Thomas Barſham, eſq. in the reign of queen Elizabeth.

In the year 1662 Samuel Smith, of Colkirk, was lord, and preſented. On his death he left four daughters and coheireſſes; and in 1712 Thomas Bendiſh, eſq. was lord. In 1740 Henry Kelſall, eſq. of the treaſury, was lord and patron, who ſold it to lord viſcount Townſhend, whoſe ſon, George, the preſent lord viſcount Townſhend, is lord.

The tenths were 46s. 10d. Deducted 4s. 2d. Remained 42s. 8d.

The temporalities of Normanſburgh priory were valued in 1428 at 14s. 6d.—of Fakenham-dam 5s. 5d.—of Coxford priory 3s. 9d.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is a rectory, formerly valued at ten marks; the preſent value is 6l. 9s. 2d. and pays no firſt-fruits, or tenths.

In 1741, and 4, Mr. John Sparrow, merchant, in London, preſented; and in 1768 the Rev. William

liam Barnwell was preſented to this rectory by the Rev. Charles Barnwell, of Mileham, *p. j.*

In or about the year 1760 a ſilver ſeal was ploughed up near Snoring, curiouſly engraved, and a fine impreſs, and well ornamented, about the ſize of a ſhilling; in the centre of it is a ſmall ſhield, with three oxes heads, and this legend:—*SIGILL. THOME. DE. OXWYC.*—This is now in the hands of Charles Barnwell, eſq. of Mileham.

PATTESLY, or PATESLEY, though rated along with Oxwick, and adjoining, is conſolidated with the vicarage of Mattiſhall, in the hundred of Mitford, and deanry of Hingham.

King William on his conqueſt granted this town to lord Peter de Valoines, and Roger held it under him at the ſurvey. Aleſtan, a free-man, was owner of it in king Edward's reign, when it was accounted a manor, valued at 20s. per ann. It was four furlongs long, and two broad, and paid 3d. gelt. The ſoc belonged to the king's manor of Mileham.

In the reign of Henry I. when lord Peter de Valoines founded the priory of Binham, Roger, a knight of his, gave two parts of his tithes in this town to that priory. This was likely that Roger who held it under lord Peter at the ſurvey, and was anceſtor of the family of de Patteſley, lords of the town; Herbert de Patteſley was living in the 9th of king John.

About the 52d of Henry III. Hamo de Patteſley held it by the fourth part of a fee, with meſſuages, lands, and rents, in Oxwick, Tittleſhall, Caldwell, Rainham, Whiſſonſet, and Toſts. This family continued

tinued lords here for ſome time, and had the advowſon of the church.]

In the 10th of Richard II. ſir Walter Fitz-Walter (whoſe anceſtor married Gunnora, daughter and heireſs of Robert lord Valoines) was found to be the capital lord of the fee, and to hold in this town, Tittleſhall, Godwick, Wellingham, Whiſſonſet, &c. one fee belonging to his manor of Hempnall, in Norfolk.

From one of the daughters and coheireſſes of the Patteſleys it came to Wiliam de Breton, who preſented in 1351, and in 1388, as did Nicholas Breton in 1391; but in the 3d of Henry IV. 1401, Ellen, Joan, and Catherine, daughters and coheireſſes of William Breton, held the before-mentioned fourth part of a fee, or manor.

After this it ſeems to be in ſeveral hands, John Sutton preſenting in 1405, Henry Carmely, or Carman, in 1408, 1409, and 1431, and John Schaymnes, who likely married the three daughters and coheireſſes of Breton, and having each a part, or ſhare, in this lordſhip, are ſtiled in the inſtitution books *domicelli*. But it returned to the Patteſleys ſoon after the laſt preſentation of Henry Carman, and Hamo de Patteſley died ſeiſed of it, and the advowſon, in 1438, when it is ſaid that he held it *in capite* by the 20th part of a fee; and John Patteſley, citizen and alderman of London, was his couſin and heir; he was ſheriff of London in 1432, and lord mayor in 1440, being then a knight, and died lord of this manor in 1449; his widow preſented to this church December 26, 1460.

In the 9th of Edward IV. John Seaman, William Carman, William Bulman, and Roger Richers, conveyed to John and Henry Heydon, Thomas Boleyn, &c.

&c. this manor and advowſon, with ſixty acres of land, and Henry Heydon, eſq. preſented in 1484.

Sir Chriſtopher Heydon, of Baconſthorpe, in the hundred of South Erpingham, gave it in the reign of queen Elizabeth, together with the advowſon, to Caius College, in Cambridge, and the ſaid college exchanged the manor with ſir Roger Townſhend, knt. of Rainham, for the manor of D'Engains, in Feverſham, in Cambridgeſhire, and Stow-Qui, and kept the patronage, which they enjoy at this time, the manor being in lord viſcount Townſhend; here is only the manor-houſe remaining, wherein a farmer lives. The tenths were 1l. 12s.

The lordſhip of the Hauvills, of Dunton, and Rainham, extended into this town, and Thomas de Hauvill paid a relief for lands here, held by caſtle-guard, to Norwich caſtle in the 35th of Edward I.

"Pat, or Pet, (ſays Mr. Parkin) is the name of ſeveral little rivers, and gives name to this, and to many towns, viz. Peteſwick, in Eſſex; Patteſhall, in Northamptonſhire; Pat, or Petworth, in Suſſex, &c."

The church was dedicated to St. John Baptiſt, and was a rectory, anciently valued at 40s. it was called a *ſinecure* in the year 1521, and no church was ſtanding in 1571; the preſent value is 8l. 18s. 8d.

In 1743 the lately deceaſed Rev. Dr. Henry Goodall was preſented to the vicarage of Patteſly, conſolidated with Mattiſhall, by the maſter and fellows of Caius College, Cambridge.

ROUGHAM,

ROUGHAM* is a conſiderable village and poſt town on the road from Fakenham to Swaffham.

ROUGHAM MANOR. William earl Warren held in Rougham, and Franſham *Magna*, a very conſiderable lordſhip, which Toke, a Saxon thane, or free man, poſſeſſed in the reign of king Edward.

This was ſoon afterwards held of the earl Warren by ſeveral perſons, and divided into ſmall fees, or lordſhips.

Hugh de Fochigetune, or Folkinton, gave to the monks of Caſtle Acre two parts of the tithe of his demeſne in Rucham in all things, viz. in corn, *(garbis)* lambs, wool, hemp, and in whatever tithe is due.

Juliana, daughter of William de Wirmele, patroneſs of the church of St. Mary de Rougham, with the aſſent of William, her ſon and heir, confirmed to the monks a moiety of all the tithe of her demeſne lands, as well ploughed as hereafter to be ploughed, and of her ſmall tithe belonging to her patronage, in pure alms, without date.

William Harawein confirmed the ancient church of St. Mary de Rougham, which was built on his fee, with an half acre of land on the weſt ſide of it, to the priory of Weſtacre; this William is ſometimes called William de Rucham, or Rougham.

Sir Richard Butler, of Rougham, knt. as lord, confirmed a grant of lands to the ſaid monks, by deed without date; and a deſcendent of this William

* It is wrote in Doomſday-book Ruhham.

le Botiler, of Rougham, in the 52d of Henry II. held a knight's fee, and though of age was not a knight, which proves that all who held a fee were *obliged*, when of age, to take upon them that degree. Beſides theſe it appears, that the family of Rougham was very ſoon after the conqueſt enfeoffed in part of this village. Alexander de Rougham paid 40s. in the 27th of Henry II. to bring his plea in the king's court againſt the earl of Arundel, and Robert de Mortimer.

In the 11th of Edward II. Richard de Rougham conveyed lands to Richard Fitz-John, of Maſſingham; and in the 9th of that reign Alice de Rougham was returned to be lady of a manor, mother, moſt likely, of Richard aforeſaid, who dying without iſſue male, Alice, his daughter, or ſiſter, was married to John Read. Before this the Reads had an intereſt in this town; for in the 1ſt of Edward II. John Read, and Ralph, his ſon, held lands here.

John Read, by Alice de Rougham, had a ſon, Richard, who married Margaret, ſiſter and heireſs of Richard Hooker, whoſe daughter and heireſs, Elizabeth, brought the manor of Rougham to John Yelverton, eſq. a family of great antiquity in the county of Norfolk, taking their name from the town of Yelverton, in the hundred of Henſtead, where they had poſſeſſions ſoon after the conqueſt; they had alſo great poſſeſſions in Rackheath and Saxthorpe.

This John Yelverton had, by Elizabeth, ſir William Yelverton, judge of the King's-bench in 1444, and before this under ſteward of the Duchy of Lancaſter, in Norfolk, juſtice of the peace and gaol delivery in the biſhop of Ely's liberty of Mitford hundred, and knight of the bath in 1460; by Jane, his firſt wife, daughter

daughter of ſir Oliver le Groſs, was father of John Yelverton, eſq. of the body to king Edward IV. who married Margery, daughter and heireſs of William Morley, eſq. who were both living in the 36th year of Henry VI. He died July 9, 1481, and left William Yelverton, their ſon, married to Ann, daughter of John Paſton, eſq. of Paſton, by whom he had William Yelverton, who died without iſſue, and Amy, married to John, or James Elmes, eſq.

The eldeſt branch being thus extinct, we return to his offspring by his ſecond wife, Ela, or Agnes, daughter of ſir Thomas Brewes, of Topcroft, in Norfolk, by whom the judge had ſeveral ſons; 1ſt William, 2d John, 3d Thomas, 4th Nicholas, 5th Edward, 6th Adam, and a daughter, Ann, married to Adam, Cam, of Weaſenham.

William, the eldeſt ſon, married (as the Peerage relates) a daughter of ſir James Hewet, lord mayor of London; but it does not appear that there was any one of that name lord mayor of London.

This William Yelverton, eſq. and Catherine, his wife, were living in 1459, and in the 13th of Edward IV. From the writings of this family, and from his grave-ſtone in the church, it ſeems that he married Catherine, daughter of Henry Spelman, eſq. of Stow-Beccles, by whom he had a ſon, William, whoſe three ſons were, Henry, the firſt, William, the ſecond, who was a knight, and lived in Ireland, and Chriſtopher, the third ſon, who was a knight, and lord chief juſtice of the King's-bench in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and from whom deſcended the Yelvertons, lords Grey, of Ruthyn, and earls of Suſſex.

Henry Yelverton, eſq. of Rougham, the eldeſt ſon, married Bridget, daughter of ſir William Drury, of Hawſtead, in Suffolk, and was father of William Yelverton, eſq. of Rougham, created baronet May 31, 1620; by Dionyſia, his wife, daughter and coheireſs of Richard Stubbs, eſq. of Sedgeford, he had ſir William Yelverton, bart. his ſon and heir, and ſir Henry Yelverton, knt. who married Alice, daughter and heireſs to Dr. William Barlow, biſhop of Lincoln, and died without iſſue.

Sir William, by Urſula, his wife, daughter of ſir Thomas Richardſon, lord chief juſtice of the King's-bench, left a ſon and heir, ſir William Yelverton, bart. and two daughters, Elizabeth and Urſula, and died in 1648, July 19; his lady, Urſula, ſurvived him, dying in 1657, March 20, and alſo her only ſon and heir, ſir William Yelverton, bart. who died without iſſue, November 15, 1649, ſo that by his death this family and honor became extinct.

Urſula, his youngeſt ſiſter and coheireſs, married the Rev. Mr. Shipdham, and Elizabeth married Thomas Peyton, eſq. fourth ſon of ſir Edward Peyton, of Iſleham, in Cambridgeſhire, and was father of, firſt, William Peyton, eſq. of Dublin, in Ireland, who died about 1686, and left by Frances, his wife, daughter of ſir Herbert Lunsford, knt. a daughter, Elizabeth, who died young; ſecond, Robert Peyton, living in Virginia in 1692; third, Charles Peyton, who married Elizabeth, daughter of William Bladwell, eſq. of Swannington, and there buried; fourth, Yelverton Peyton, of Rougham, eſq. who married Hannah, daughter of ſir John Roberts; alſo a daughter, Ann, married to Thomas Woods, of Bracon-Aſh, eſq.

The

The Roughams' eſtate being poſſeſſed by Thomas Peyton aforeſaid, he mortgaged, and afterwards ſold it to ſir John Bladwell, brother of William Bladwell before-mentioned; this ſir John living in one part of the hall, and Thomas Peyton in the other, a friendſhip was contracted between them, and ſir John at his death gave this manor, &c. to Yelverton Peyton, fourth ſon of Thomas aforeſaid, who ſold it to the honorable Roger North, eſq. (ſixth ſon of Dudley, lord North) in 1690, who made great improvements in the hall, and in the lands, by planting, incloſing, &c. By his wife, daughter of ſir ——— Gayer, of Stoke-Pogeys, in Bucks, he had Roger North, eſq. whoſe ſon, Fountaine North, eſq. is the preſent lord.

GREEN'S-HALL, *alias* FINCHAM'S. Juliana, daughter of William, ſon of Richard de Wirmele, (as hath been obſerved) held a part of the earl Warren's fee, and was patroneſs of the church; this part deſcended to the Botilers, of Rougham, and it appears that there had been a controverſy between the prior and convent of Caſtle Acre, and that of Weſtacre, rectors of this pariſh, (as they are ſtiled, by which it ſeems that there were two moities in this church) concerning the tithes of all the demeſnes which formerly belonged to ſir Richard de Botiler, appertaining to Caſtle Acre, which tithes the ſaid prior, &c. agreed and granted in 1301 to the prior of Weſtacre, for ever, who covenanted to pay 30s. per ann. for the ſame to the convent of Caſtle Acre.

In the 3d and 9th of Edward II. this was poſſeſſed by Richard Atte-Green, who had the aſſize of bread and beer, and other royalties; and in the 20th of Edward III. John Atte-Green, John le Donne, and their parceners, held one fee in this town, and Fran-

ſham, of the heirs of John de Gateſend, and he of the earl Warren, which William le Botiler formerly held.

This came afterwards to the Finchams; William Fincham, of Rougham, died in 1461, and was buried in the church. Edmund Fincham, his ſon, was buried in the ſouth porch of this church in 1471, and died lord of Green's-hall.

The Yelvertons ſeem to be the next lords of it; William Yelverton, eſq. was poſſeſſed of it, and his ſon, Henry, in the 32d of Elizabeth: in this family it remained, and being united to the manor of Rougham before mentioned, paſſed with that, as is there obſerved.

In the 3d of Edward III. William de Briſingham, and Clement de Creſſingham, held lordſhips here under the earl Warren, and had aſſize of bread and beer and other royalties of their tenants.

In the 1ſt year of Henry IV. Ralph Bedingham, and Edward Hunt, chaplain, held one knight's fee, with their parceners, in this town, and Franſham, of the heirs of John Cudſden, and he of the earl Warren's fee, now of the Duchy of Lancaſter. This alſo ſoon after came to the Yelvertons, and was conveyed and paſſed as before obſerved.

Godric at the ſurvey farmed, or kept, a lordſhip in this town, belonging to the Conqueror; and Alwin, a free-man, had a carucate and an half in the time of king Edward, always valued at 3s. The whole was in the ſoc of Stigand, and belonging to his manors, or farms, in the days of king Edward. After that Ralph Waiher, earl Warren, had it, and on his forfeiture

ſeiture Godric held it, when it was valued at 60s. per ann. being ſeven furlongs long, and ſix broad, and paid 20d. gelt.

This lordſhip, which was held by Stigand the archbiſhop, with that of Mileham, in the Confeſſor's time, was granted ſoon after this account of it in the ſurvey, with that of Mileham, to Alan, ſon of Flaald, by William the Conqueror, from whom deſcended the noble family of the Fitz-Alans, earls of Arundel; and in the 3d of Edward I. it was found to be in the ſaid family, lords alſo of Mileham, who had the aſſize of bread and beer, and other royalties, in this town. In the 14th of Richard II. John de Creſſingham held lands of the earl of Arundel; and in the 13th of Henry VI. the earl of Arundel held it of the king *in capite*; this came into the Yelverton family, and was conveyed with the manor of Rougham.

Hermerus de Ferrarijs had a ſmall lordſhip, as we find in Doomſday-book, poſſeſſed by Fulbert, to which there belonged a carucate then, but at the ſurvey only half a carucate; but the other half might be recovered, valued at 10s. per ann. the ſoc was in Mileham, and belonged then to the king; Fulbert* was lord in his own right in the time of king Edward, and now held it under Hermerus, who was anceſtor of the lords Bardolph, of Wormegay.

Sir Pain de Tiptoft, knt. was lord of it, and enſeoffed John, ſon of John de Drayton, therein; and one of the ſame name held it in or about the time of

* But the ſoc, the chief power, the court baron, &c. belonged to the king's manor of Mileham: this Fulbert was alſo a prieſt, and the ſame who in the account of Norwich, in Doomſday-book, is called "Fulbertus quidam ſacerdos Hermeri," and held then a houſe in Norwich.

Edward III. by the tenth part of a fee, of lord Bardolph; this alſo was united, and paſſed as before, in the Yelvertons.

Alan earl of Richmond had a manor in Mileham which extended into this town; and in the 3d of Henry IV. Ralph de Bedingham, and John Yelverton, held it by the third part of a fee, which was held in the 8th of Edward I. with other lands in Mileham, Ling, &c. by one fee and an half, and by a quarter of a fee, paying 25s. per ann. to the ward of Richmond-caſtle.

The temporalities of the priory of Weſtacre in 1428 were valued at 4s. per ann.—Coxford at 1d.—Weſt Dereham 12d.—Peterſton 4s.—and Caſtle Acre 16s.

By the regiſter of Caſtle Acre we find many others were benefactors, by their deeds without date; all which coming to the crown on the diſſolution of that priory, it ſeems to be granted to Robert Hogan, who held lands here *in capite* of Henry VIII.

The tenths of the town were 8l. 5s.—Deduct 2l. 5s.—Remain 6l.

The church was dedicated to St. Mary, and being a rectory appropriated to the priory of Weſtacre, a vicarage was ſettled, valued at eleven marks, the rectory at thirty marks, and the vicarage was in the preſentation of the ſaid convent.

Henry prior of Weſtacre had confirmed to him the appropriation of this church, firſt appropriated by Ralph Walpole, biſhop of Norwich, and in the time of king Edward confirmed alſo by his immediate ſucceſſor,

ceſſor, John Salmon: the bull of pope Nicholas is cited, wherein it is ſet forth, "that the monaſtery of Weſtacre had been lately burnt down, and therefore the biſhop gave licence in 1303, and a compoſition was then made, that the vicar ſhould have all the mortuaries, four quarters of corn, two of wheat, and two of barley, the herbage of the church-yard, and the chapel annexed."

In the 2d of Elizabeth the impropriate rectory, which on the diſſolution of Weſtacre priory came to the crown, was granted, July 8, to Richard Nicholls. The preſent value of the vicarage is 28s. 5d. and the patronage is in the crown, and pays no firſt-fruits, or tenths.

In 1736 the Rev. Chriſtopher Sealby had this vicarage of the crown by ſequeſtration.—Aug. 20d. 1766.

The ſpiritualities of Caſtle Acre priory in 1428 were valued at 40s. per ann.

At the weſt end of the ſteeple is a broken cruciſix of ſtone, and ſeems to have been well performed.

On the pavement of the chancel lie ſeveral graveſtones;—*Orate p. a'ia Joh. Swaffham, quonda' vicarij hujus ecclie, qui ob. anno Dni. millmo CCCC. nonageſimo* 9°. *cuj. &c.*

One with the arms of North, azure, a lion paſſant or. between three lys, argent;—*Hic jacet Montague North, filius natu quintus prænobilis Dudlej d'ni North, baronis de Kirtling, ob. apud Rougham, 27 Sept.* 1710.

One

One with the portraitures of two infants in braſs; —*Obitus Joh. Yelverton*, 1505.—*Obitus Rogeri Yelverton*, 1510.

On a grave-ſtone at the eaſt end of the chancel is the effigy of a man between his two wives; under his firſt wife, on his right hand, the portraitures of ten children in braſs, and under the other ſix children; the plate whereon was the epitaph is torn off, but by the arms it appears to be—*In memory of William Yelverton, eſq. and his two wives, Ann, daughter of Fermour, and Jane, daughter of Cocket;*—over him, on a plate, the arms of Yelverton, and of his wives.

On the north ſide of the chancel is an aile, or chapel, and in it a grave-ſtone,—*In memory of Elizabeth Peyton, daughter of Sir William Yelverton, and Urſula, his wife, the heireſs of that family, who died June* 15, 1668.

One with the arms of Yelverton impaling Richardſon;—*Sir William Yelverton, bart. of Rougham, died July* 19, 1648; *and Urſula, daughter of Thomas lord Richardſon, his wife, March* 20, 1657.——Alſo,—*Sir William Yelverton, bart. their only ſon, who died November* 15, 1649, *without iſſue.*

One with the arms of Bladwell;—*Here lies interred Sir John Bladwell, the eldeſt ſon of William Bladwell, of Swannington, eſq. he endowed the vicarage of this town with a good houſe, and ſome land adjoining to it; he died October* 14, 1680, *aged* 64.

On a ſtone with the portraitures of one in braſs, with his lady, ſeven ſons, and a daughter,—*In memory of William Yelverton, eſq. eldeſt ſon of ſir William Yelverton, the judge, by his ſecond wife, obt.* 9 *die Julij, anno*

anno a nativitate Chriſti 1481;—the braſs ſhields with the arms are torn off, &c. but on a plate there remain ſome Latin verſes.

In the ſaid aile is a low altar-tomb, with the effigies of one in armor, and his lady, in memory of the judge, and on a plate,—*Orate p. a'iab; Willelmi Yelverton, militis et quonda' juſtici' domini regis de ſuo Banco. et domine Agnetis uxor' ſue, qui quide' Willelmo obijt, 27 die Martis* ————.

In a north window are the ancient arms of the family of Rougham.

The church is a ſingle building, covered with lead; at the weſt end is a ſquare ſteeple, with two bells; the chancel is thatched, and has a chapel, or north aile. It appears that there was formerly a north aile to the church, and on the ſouth ſide of the church there is a library built by the late Mr. North, and furniſhed with books by his own and other benefactions. At a diſtance from the church, to the ſouth, was an old chapel, now called *The Chapel-barn.*

" Rough, or Row, gives name to ſeveral towns, to this, and one in Suffolk, &c. and to an hamlet, called Rougholm, or Rowholm, in Greſſenhall, to Rowhampton, in Surrey, to Roughton, or Rowſton, in Lincolnſhire, &c.—*Parkin.*"

Rougham is the ſeat of Fountaine North, eſq. the houſe and plantations are ſpacious, and the ſituation remarkably healthy. The country hereabouts is light and airy, and the lands require the moſt ſkilful management in agriculture.

SCARNING.

SCARNING, wrote in Doomſday-book Sceminga. The principal lordſhip of this village was held by Fredric, a free-man, or Saxon thane, in the reign of Edward the Confeſſor; but on the conqueſt was granted to William earl Warren; it was valued at 30s. his predeceſſor had only the protection of it, but their predeceſſors had the ſoc.

SCARNING-HALL. This was poſſeſſed by the family of de Franſham, and ſir William de Franſham (a deſcendent of Gilbert, who was enfeoffed herein by the earl Warren) in the 3d of Edward I. held here, and in Great Franſham, one fee of earl Warren. Jeffrey de Franſham, eſq. dying in 1414 without iſſue, left his five ſiſters his coheireſſes, and the greateſt part of his inheritance here was ſettled on Alice, his ſecond, and on Agatha, his fifth ſiſter and coheireſs. Alice married ——— de Thuxton, by whom ſhe had Theobald de Thuxton, who left five daughters and coheireſſes. Agatha married ——— Arnold, who with her ſiſter, Alice, had an equal moiety of this manor.

Edmund Swathing, eſq. ſon of William, who married the third ſiſter and coheireſs of Jeffrey de Franſham, having purchaſed three of the five parts of the moiety of this lordſhip, with that of Dillington, preſented in their right to the rectory of this church in 1423, and Thomas Sharington, grandſon by a daughter and heireſs of Edmund Swathing, held the ſame in the 19th of Henry VII.

In 1434 Thomas Arnold, of Rolleſby, and Henry Sharington, of Eaſt Dereham, in right of their moieties of this manor, preſented.

After

After this the two moieties of the two ſiſters before-mentioned ſeem to be united and poſſeſſed by Roger Townſhend, eſq. who preſented in 1509, and in 1537, being then a knight, and ſir Roger Townſhend knt. was lord in 1595; but in 1597 Edmund Anguiſh was lord and patron, who purchaſed it of the Townſhends.

In 1723 Richard Warner, eſq. was lord, and preſented to the rectory: on his death in 1757, and a diviſion of his eſtate, it came to John Conyers, eſq. of Eſſex, by the marriage of Hannah, one of his daughters and coheireſſes.

This manor, together with the eſtate, and other manors, late Richard Warner's, eſq. were lately ſold and conveyed by the Conyers family to John Lombe, eſq. of Great Melton, who is now lord of the ſeveral manors, ſole patron of the living, impropriator of a moiety of the rectorial tithes, and owner of a conſiderable part of the pariſh.

NORTHERN, or NORTHEND-HALL, GUNTON'S, or WENDLING ABBEY MANOR. This manor belonged to the earl Warren's fee, and was ſituated at the north end of the town; the family of the de Skernings, or Scarnings, were ancient lords of it, and Alexander de Scarning ſettled by fine in the 8th of Edward II. nine meſſuages, a toft, 106 acres of land, eight of meadow, eight of paſture, and 36s. rent per ann. on John de Gunton.

In the 52d of Henry III. the abbot of Wendling, and his ſucceſſors, had five meſſuages, eighty-ſeven acres of land, one mill, and 10s. rent ſettled: this, with other lands given, made up the manors of Northern-hall, and Gunton's, in Scarning Parva, all which

which belonged to Wendling abbey, and was granted by Henry VIII. in his 35th year, to Robert Hogan, eſq. to be held by knight's ſervice, by patent, dated November 1; he died ſeiſed of it November 4, in the 1ſt of Edward VI. leaving Thomas, his ſon and heir, who with Suſan, his wife, by licence under the great ſeal, dated March 20, in the 2d year of the ſaid king, aliened them to Thomas and Richard Hoo, father and ſon, who then reſided at Burnham-Overy, and Richard having the manor of Barry's, in Eaſt Tuddenham, they made that their reſidence; this family was deſcended from Robert Hoo, third ſon of ſir William Hoe, by Alice, daughter of ſir Thomas St. Omer.

This Richard Hoo, of Scarning, eſq. left by Alice, his wife, two daughters and coheireſſes, Elizabeth, married to John Games, gent. ſecond ſon of ſir John Games, of Newton, in Brecknockſhire; and Roberta, married to Francis Steward, third ſon of John Steward, eſq. of Braughing, in Hertfordſhire, and of Marham, in Norfolk, by whom he had Hoo Steward, eſq. a bencher of Gray's-Inn, London, who ſold his moiety of this lordſhip to alderman Farrington, of London, who preſented to this church in 1690.

John Games, by Elizabeth, his wife, left three daughters and coheireſſes; Florence, married to Richard Lucy, clerk, of St. David's, in Wales; Elizabeth, married to Thomas Walker, eſq. of Gray's-Inn, counſellor at law; and Catherine, who was not married in 1689: they all joined and conveyed their moiety of this lordſhip to Oliver le Neve, eſq. in the ſaid year, with the impropriate rectory and advowſon of the vicarage, who ſold the ſame in 1701 to Humphrey Prideaux, D. D. afterwards dean of Norwich.

WALTHAM ABBEY MANOR. William de Skerning, Skerling, or Scarning, gave to this abbey his meſſuage and lands, held of Gilbert de Franſham by 2s. rent, and his land held of William de Drayton, in this town, by 4d. rent. Of this family was Alexander de Skerning, who married Nichola, daughter and heireſs of Roger le Strange, about the 34th of Henry III.

Thomas, ſon of Baldwin, gave them lands at the church, the houſe, called Stubbes, and lands called Sponeſbergh.—Ralph, ſon of Peter, gave them lands.—Roger de Freville gave them his meadow between the chapel of St. Botolph and Sponeſbergh.

William de Drayton gave them the moiety of the church, ſaving all dues to the biſhop, and a competent ſupport for a vicar to celebrate, in that moiety, and there being a controverſy between the rector and the abbot about houſes and barns near the church, they exchanged one with the other; and about the tithes of the abbot's moiety, the rector remits them wholly to the abbot, and the ſaid abbot gave to St. Catherine, and the nuns of Blackborough, all the tithes of their free land, and of the land which was William de Scarnings.

Pope Innocent the third confirmed to them their right in this church, that no tithes ſhould be exacted of the lands they held, dated 1198; and Henry III. in his 37th year, granted them, March 30, free-warren here.

At the diſſolution of this abbey the poſſeſſions thereto belonging, and the impropriate rectory, with the patronage of the vicarage, were granted, September 9, to ſir William Fermour, who July 24 following,

lowing, in the 37th of Henry VIII. conveyed them to Richard Hoo, of Scarning, gent. and ſo came to Games, and Steward, &c.

Part of this town was a lordſhip, or beruite, belonging to the earl Warren's manor of Greſſenhall. Wimer held it at the ſurvey, and it was valued with Greſſenhall, and had the ſame capital lords. John de Lacy, and Thomas de Earlham, held it of Richard Foliot in the time of Edward I. and John Poynter, and John Sterling, of the Haſtings, in the 3d of Henry IV. and this was the manor that William Aggas, gent. died poſſeſſed of in 1458.

Ralph lord Baynard had a ſmall fee, or lordſhip, belonging to his capital manor of Eaſt Braddenham, in South Greenhoe hundred, but the ſoc was in Mileham manor. Roger de Huntingfield held it in the reign of king John, and withdrew it from the hundred ſuit after the war commenced between that king and his barons. It remained in this family in the 7th of Edward II.

Ann Hungate ſold lands here, and in Eaſt Braddenham, held *in capite*, to ſir Francis Bacon in the 13th of James I. and in 1659 Henry Hungate, eſq. had an eſtate here of 100l. per ann. as then taxed.

Brayton-hall was part of Ralph de Beaufoe's lordſhip in Eaſt Dereham, and Swanton-Morley, at the ſurvey, and extended into this village; it took its name from its ancient lords, and it was ſeated in a cloſe that retains its name.

By Agnes and Alice, the daughters and coheireſſes of William de Drayton, (had by a fine in the 14th of Henry III.) this lordſhip went to William Lanveiſey,

Lanveiſey. and William de Bellemont, in the 14th of Henry III. he granted to Roger de Beeſton, of Scarning, common with his cattle *(averijs)* any where in the common paſture in Scarning, called Toſtwood-hill, for a certain meſſuage ſituate in Brendwode.

In the 39th of Edward III. William Catts was lord, and paid 3s. 9d. per ann. to lord Morley, lord of Hockering, and to the lord of the hundred 2s. leet fee, 22d. mote rent, and ſuit of court to the hundred at Eaſter, and St. Michael; and in the 13th of Henry VII. September 8, ſir Henry Heydon conveyed it to William Bardwell, jun. eſq. in exchange for the manor of Witchingham, in Salthouſe and Kelling, and Robert Bardwell, eſq. his ſon and heir, was lord in the 3d of Henry VIII.

March 4, in the 4th of Henry VIII. ſir Robert Southwell ſold to William Wotton all his right in the wardſhip, cuſtody, and marriage of Elizabeth, daughter and heireſs of Robert Bardwell, eſq. by virtue of a grant to him from ſir Edward Howard, held of the ſaid Edward in right of lady Morley, his wife; and John Wotton, of North Tuddenham, eſq. who married the ſaid Elizabeth, died ſeiſed of it November 14, in the 37th of the aforeſaid king: about this time it appears that there belonged to it 200 acres of land, 40 of meadow, 200 of paſture, 60 of wood, 200 of moor, and 6l. rent per ann. in this town and Dillington.

Ann, the only daughter and heireſs of John Wotton, and Elizabeth, his wife, married, firſt, ſir Thomas Woodhouſe, ſecondly, Henry Reppes, eſq. by whom ſhe had no iſſue; and about 1555 ſhe married Baſſingbourne Gawdy, eſq. ſecond ſon of ſir Thomas Gawdy, ſerjeant at law; and Thomas Hoo, eſq. reſigned to

him all his right in 26s. 8d. rent in the 3d of Elizabeth, iſſuing out of this lordſhip, payable to that of Northern-hall, &c. Afterwards it was poſſeſſed by the Reppes, of Mattiſhall, and by Richard Warner, eſq. who died ſeiſed of it in 1757, and by his daughter and coheireſs was brought to —— Conyers, from whom it was ſold to John Lombe, eſq. of Great Melton.

The temporalities of Carrowe abbey in 1428 were charged at 3l. 4d.—Wendling abbey 22s. ob. Here were *concealed* lands in the 16th of Elizabeth.

" The town takes its name from Scar, a rivulet that ariſes in this pariſh, and ing, that is, meadows on the Scar; thus we find Scargill (the rivulet of the Scar) in Yorkſhire; Scars-Dale, in Derbyſhire; Scarle, in Nottinghamſhire, &c."—*Parkin.*

The church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, and contained two medieties, one in the patronage of the Franſhams, lords of the manor, and the other appropriated to the abbey of Waltham; the firſt mediety was called the portion of Hugh de Franſham, which was valued at twenty marks, he being rector of it when it was thus taxed in 1256; the preſent value is 9l. 1d. ob. and pays firſt-fruits and tenths.

In the reign of Henry II. Robert de Skerning, who was formerly rector of this church, and lord of a fee, gave the tithes of his fee to the church of Norwich, without any diminution; and Richard, his ſon, farmed the ſaid tithes of the monks of Norwich for 6s. per ann.

The

The rectors were preſented by the Franſhams, and the vicars by the abbot and convent of Waltham, in Eſſex.

The vicarage moiety of the church was given by William de Drayton to Waltham abbey, by deed without date, lord of Drayton-hall; it was valued at twenty marks as a rectory, and was appropriated to the ſaid abbey, a vicarage being ſettled, now charged at 9l. 19s. 2d. and is diſcharged of firſt-fruits and tenths.

In 1235 the vicar had all the altarage of the ſaid church, and to ſuſtain all epiſcopal and archidiaconal charges due and cuſtomary, to keep reſidence, and the ſaid abbot and convent at all times ſhall preſent the vicar to the ordinary of the place.

The two medieties were conſolidated about 1712; and in 1741 the Rev. Richard Tapps, of Norwich, was preſented to the rectory and vicarage of Scarning by the late Richard Warner, eſq. of Elmham. The Rev. Robert Potter, maſter of the grammar-ſchool here, was licenſed curate in 1763.

The church is a ſingle pile, without any aile, and has a ſtrong ſquare tower of flint-ſtone, &c. about ſeventy-five feet high, with five tuneable bells, and a chancel.

By the communion-table, in the chancel, lie ſeveral grave-ſtones: on one a ſhield; Browne impaling Repps;—*For Richard Browne, gent. obijt Aug.* 18, 1704, *ætat.* 62.——A ſtone near this,—*For Mary, his wife, daughter of John Reppes, of Mattiſhall, eſq. who died April* 16, 1708, *aged* 63.

One,—*In memory of Barbara, wife of John Browne, gent. daughter of le Eſtrange Mordaunt, of Congham, eſq. who died May* 19, 1714, *aged* 36;—with the arms of Browne impaling Mordaunt.

Several grave-ſtones in memory of the Blackhalls, and for—*Ann Blackhall, wife of Edward Blackhall, gent. who died January* 23, 1687, *aged* 55.

For—*John Batch, gent. who died May* 12, 1704, *aged* 38, *and for Elizabeth Batch, who died January* 24, 1712, *aged* 53.——Alſo for—*Edward Batch, gent. who died September* 2, 1680.

A mural monument by the eaſt window, with the effigy of an infant in alabaſter,—*In memory of Edward Games, an infant, ſon of John Games, of London, eſq. who died in* 1623,—with a ſhield; Games impaling Hoo.

On a grave-ſtone in the church,—*Hic jacet in ſpe beatæ reſurrectionis Thomas Brett, gen. Nofolcienſ. necnon grammatices,* ------- *archidiaſcalus: denatus prid. kal. Feb.* 1691, *æt.* 41.

On a braſs plate, —*Orate p. anima Johannis Ruſſell, qui obt.* 1507. *Depoſitum Joh. Burton, A. M. viri, imprimis eruditi, hujus ſcholæ ſuo tempore celeberrimæ Nordovicenſis demum magiſtri vigilantiſſimi* 16 *cal. Auguſti, anno* 1699, *ætat.* 70 *defuncti.*

The ſpiritualities of the priory of Caſtle Acre were valued at 55s. per ann. In 1428 they had the tithes of a fee, and two parts of the tithes of the demeſne, formerly of Gilbert de Franſham, and of Saer de Frevil; and the tithe of the aſſarts of Herringſhaw, in the village and fields of Scarning, containing 252 acres

acres of land, more or leſs, lett in 1366 for 20s. of ſilver per ann.

The prioreſs of Blackborough had a portion of tithe valued at 10s. per ann. The rectory of Didlington had alſo a portion belonging to it of the ſaid value, and the ſpiritualities of Norwich priory were one mark.

In 1514 it appears that there was a chapel here, dedicated to St. Botolph.

In this town is a free-ſchool, well endowed, and pleaſantly ſituated near the turnpike road from Eaſt Dereham, one mile, to Swaffham eleven: the village of Scarning lies more weſt, and the church ſtands on the north ſide of the road, two miles from Dereham.

STANFIELD, wrote in Doomſday-book Stanwelda, and Stanſelda. Thirty-three free-men held here two carucates of land under Stigand the archbiſhop of Canterbury, who had the ſoc and protection of them, to whom there belonged five borderers, with ſix acres of meadow, all which was poſſeſſed by William earl Warren at the ſurvey. This was valued then at 3l. per ann. but the ſoc was in the king's manor of Mileham. The aforeſaid freemen, &c. held with this, and in other places under Stigand, ten carucates.

This lordſhip came to the earl Warren on an exchange for lands at Lewes, in Suſſex, and was held by Wimerus, the earl's *dapifer*, lord of Greſſenhall, and by his poſterity. Jordan Foliot was lord of it in the 15th of Edward I. and claimed free-warren. From the Foliots it came to the Haſtings', and to the

le Stranges, the late ſir Henry le Strange, bart. being lord and patron in 1756.

Alan earl of Richmond had ſix acres here, which, with lands in Mileham, were held by two ſocmen of Stigand, which the ſon of Almarus held under Alan earl of Richmond. The tenths of the town were 3l. 10s. Deducted 6s. 8d.

The church is a rectory, dedicated to St. Margaret, has a long nave covered with lead, and a chancel tiled, with a ſquare tower at the weſt end. The ancient value was ten marks; the preſent value in the king's books is 6l. 14s. 2d.

In 1756 the Rev. Raſh Bird was preſented to the rectory of Stanfield by the late ſir Henry le Strange, bart. of Hunſtanton. Lady le Strange of Greſſenhall, we preſume, is now lady and patroneſs.

Stanfield church ſtands a little north of the road from Norwich, twenty-one miles, to Lynn twenty. The town lies between Briſley and Mileham.

SWANTON-MORLEY was the lordſhip of Ralph de Bellofago, or Beaufoe, at the ſurvey, but in the Confeſſor's time Godric, a free-man, was poſſeſſed of it, when there were lands, &c. Eudo, ſon of Clama, formerly held it, but Ralph now, of the gift of the king; a church endowed with an acre and an half, valued at 2d. per ann. the manor was valued at 8l. per annum, afterwards at 12l. but after that Ralph farmed it out, or lett it, at 25l. it was one leuca long, and one broad, and paid 10d. gelt; by this it appears to be a large and valuable manor.

Ralph

"The town, ſays Parkin, ſeems to take its name, as ſeated near the joining of two ſtreams, or rivulets, probably called Suan, Swin, or Swan, thus, Swinehead, in Lincolnſhire; Swinburn, in Northumberland; Swinbrook, in Oxfordſhire; and Tua, (not Tuna) which I interpret the two rivers, or waters, and Morley-Swanton from its ancient lords."

Ralph de Belloſago, or Beauſoe, was a near relation, if not ſon, of William de Beaufoe, biſhop of Thetford, chaplain and chancellor to the Conqueror, and held at the ſurvey forty-one lordſhips in this county.

Ralph de Beaufoe left a daughter and heireſs, Agnes, who was married to Hubert de Rhye, caſtellan of Norwich-caſtle, who was ſon of Hubert de Rhye, according to Dugdale, "a truſty ſervant to William duke of Normandy, and ſent by him to king Edward the Confeſſor, when that king lay on his death bed, in a pompous equipage into England, and returned to his maſter with thoſe tokens whereby he was by that king declared his heir to the crown of England, viz. a ſword, in the hilt whereof were incloſed ſome relics of Saints, an hunter's horn of gold, and the head of a mighty ſtag; for which ſervice he had the promiſe of being ſteward of his houſehold.

Ralph was his eldeſt ſon, and made caſtellan of Nottingham; Hubert was his ſecond ſon, and made governor of Norwich caſtle. A deſcendent, if not a grandſon, of the aforeſaid Hubert, was Hubert de Rhye, who in the 12th of Henry II. certified that he had thirty-five knight's fees, for which he paid thirty-five marks to the king; and dying without iſſue male in the 18th of the ſaid king, his two

daughters and coheireſſes were, Aliva, married to John Marſhall, (nephew of William Marſhall, earl of Pembroke) made marſhal of Ireland by king John, in his 9th year; and Iſabel, married to ſir Roger de Creſſie, widow of Jeffrey de Cheſter, which Jeffrey was probably a nephew to Robert Fitz-Roger, a great baron of Northumberland, who in the 1ſt of king John gave 300 marks for the younger daughter of Hubert aforeſaid, to marry her unto a nephew of his.

In the 13th of king John, John Marſhall anſwered for ſeventeen fees and an half, a moiety of the barony of Rhye, and was lord of this town: in this family it remained till John Marſhall, ſon of William, dying in the 10th of Edward II. left Hawiſe, his ſiſter and heireſs, married to ſir Robert de Morley; he died ſeiſed alſo of Hingham, Hockering, Buxton, &c. and had free-warren, waif, view of frank-pledge, a ducking-ſtool, and aſſize of bread and beer, in this town.

It appears from ancient deeds that there was a park in this village, called Bywick park, and that Avelina le Mareſchal in her widowhood, about the 40th of Henry III. granted the tithes of her mill of Suanetune, or Swanton, and of the eels taken at the mill and pools, to the priory of Norwich.

Sir Robert de Morley had livery of this lordſhip in the 10th of Edward II. was marſhal of Ireland in right of his wife, Hawiſe, and truly famous for his many gallant actions both by ſea and land; being lieutenant of Norfolk, and admiral of the king's fleet, obtained ſuch a notable victory near Sluſe, in Flanders, (as hiſtorians record it) that the like ſea-fight was never before ſeen; he was alſo in the glorious battle of Creſſy, in France, conſtable of the Tower

Tower of London, ſummoned to parliament from the 11th of Edward II. to the 31ſt of Edward III. and died in the 34th of that king, then attending him in France, leaving ſir William de Morley, his ſon and heir.

The laſt heir male of this noble family was Robert, ſon of Thomas lord Morley, and the lady Iſabel, his wife, daughter of Michael De-la-Pole, earl of Suffolk, who dying in the 21ſt of Henry VI. left by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of William lord Roos, Alianore, his daughter and heireſs, who afterwards married William Lovel, a younger ſon of lord Lovel, of Tichmarſh, who in her right was lord Morley, and inherited the eſtate of that family, and died ſeiſed of it July 23, 1475, leaving Henry Lovel, his ſon and heir, lord Morley; and in 1487 was ſlain at Dixmue, in Flanders, leaving no iſſue by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of John De-la-Pole, duke of Suffolk, ſo that his eſtate deſcended to Alice, his only ſiſter, wife of ſir William Parker, of London, knt. who was lord of this town, &c. and on his death ſhe remarried to ſir Edward Howard, ſecond ſon to Thomas duke of Norfolk.

Sir Henry Parker was ſon and heir to ſir William; he was knight of the bath, and in 1529 ſummoned to parliament as lord Morley: ſir Henry, his ſon and heir, had Henry lord Morley, who by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Edward earl of Derby, had Edward, his ſon and heir, lord Morley, who married Elizabeth, ſole heireſs of William Stanley, lord Monteagle, fifth ſon to Thomas earl of Derby, and in her right was alſo lord Monteagle; he died April 1, 1618, and was buried in the church of Stepney, in Middleſex; but before his death ſold moſt of the eſtate deſcended to him from the Morleys, lord Morley, and this

this lordſhip, to ſir Thomas Lovel, of Harling, and ſo to ſir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburgh, and Thomas Bedingfield, eſq. died ſeiſed of it in the 32d of Elizabeth, in which family it was in the reign of Charles I.

In 1659 Guybon Goddard, eſq. was lord, and charged in a militia rate in that year at 65l. per ann. for his manor and lands; he was ſerjeant at law, and recorder of Lynn; and in 1654 William Small, eſq. of Hadleigh, in Suffolk, was lord, and gave 10l. per ann. towards the education of poor children, and binding out boys apprentices, born in this town, and ſettled lands for the ſame, called Eye-Park, in Suffolk; and in the year 1688 Daniel Farrington, eſq. alderman of London, the lineal deſcendent of John Farrington, and Joanna, his wife, daughter of Ralph Caldwell, of Aldton-hall, in Staffordſhire, and a member of Gray's-inn, London, (from which Ralph the Ralph Caldwell, of Hilborough, in South Greenhoe hundred, is deſcended) poſſeſſed it, and on his death his ſiſter, Mrs. Phill, of London.

About the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign we find this lordſhip valued at 57l. 1s. 5d. ob. that is to ſay,—Wood-gate-ſtreet rent 10l. 4s. 11d. ob.—Green-gate-ſtreet 10l. 7s. 5d. ob.—Weſt-gate-ſtreet 30l. 6d. ob. over and beſides a rent of 14s. 6d. ob. q. —and Gooſe-gate-ſtreet rent 4l. 12s. 3d.

The ſcite of this manor was near to the church, encompaſſed with a moat, but the moſt ancient ſcite is ſaid to be by the river, againſt Bylaugh, now called Newcaſtle.

The manors and principal part of this town, and the hamlet of Worthing, were a few years ſince ſold and

and conveyed by Mrs. Phill, of London, the owner and poſſeſſor at that time, to John Lombe, eſq. of Great Melton, the preſent lord and owner.

HEREFORD, or HERTFORD'S MANOR. In the reign of Henry III. John de Herford held in this townſhip the ſixth part of a fee of Thomas de Ware, and Hugh Snetterton, they of William de Marſhall, and he of the king; and one of the ſame name, ſettled by fine in the 6th of Edward II. had ſix meſſuages, 260 acres of land, ſixteen of meadow, twenty of paſture, one and a half of wood, with five marks, and 6s. 8d. rent here, in Hoe, Beetley, Mattiſhall, and Eaſt Dereham. Thomas Utber, who lived at Hoe in 1666, was lord of it. It appears that the ſcite of this hall was in the bounds of this pariſh by the field book.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is a rectory, anciently valued at fifty marks; the preſent value is 15l. 11s. 1d. and pays firſt-fruits and tenths, and Worthing is an hamlet belonging to this pariſh, having a chapel, dedicated to St. Margaret, ſerved by this rector, and annexed to it about 1489.

In 1555 John Chriſtopherſon, S. T. B. afterwards dean of Norwich, and biſhop of Chicheſter, was preſented by Henry Parker, lord Morley; and in 1557 Richard Cheyney, S. T. B. afterwards biſhop of Briſtol and Glouceſter, was preſented by the king and queen.

In 1643 Richard Neave, clerk, bought the advowſon of ſir Henry Bedingfield, lord of the manor.

In 1743 the Rev. Thomas Ewin was preſented to this rectory by Thomas Dave, gent. The Rev. Joſhua Larwood is now the rector, preſented for this turn

turn, agreeable to the will of his grandfather, the late Rev. Mr. Ewin, who was the patron; and the patronage at this time is in the Ewin family.

The priory of Norwich had a portion of tithe valued at 40s. per ann.

The church ſtands on a hill in the middle of the town, and was building in the year 1379, as appears from the will of William lord Morley, dated Auguſt 26th, in the ſaid year, wherein he "gives to the work of the church of Swanton-Morley, then begun, ten marks, and his gilt cup." It conſiſts of a nave, or body, with two ailes, and a chancel, covered with lead, and under the eaſt end of that a large charnel, and there is a tall ſquare tower, with four bells.

In a window of the chancel an effigy of a prieſt in a blue robe, praying, and—*Orate p. a'ia Edi. Pylgryme, quo'd. rector. iſt. ecclie. qi. obijt* xxvii *die Julij, anno Dni. M. V.* iii. *cuj. a'ie, &c.*

On a ſtone on the pavement,—*M. S. Reliquiæ Elizab. chariſſima uxor Fran. Neve, rect. hujus eccl. expiravit* 4 *Julij, anno Dni.* 1664.

A grave-ſtone, arms a frett,—*In memory of George Fleming, gent. and his only ſon, Roger Fleming, citizen and merchant-taylor of London, who died April* 9, 1713, *ætat.* 65.

Nicholas Parham, gent. died Jan. 2, 1712, *aged* 87, —and his and his wife's arms.—*Rachel, wife of Nicholas Parham, gent. died November* 10, 1714, *æt.* 77.

Parham impaling ermin, three roſes;—*Sacrum memoriæ Petri Parham, hujuſce pagi indigenæ coll. Caio-Gonvill,*

Gonvill, ſocij et amici ſummi, apud Norwicenſes, M. D. ſolertis et integri, qui famæ tandem anniſq; ſatur; relicto, omnibus præcipue egenis grave deſiderio, ſui quo'd. mortale habuit, ſub hoc marmore repoſuit anno Chriſtianæ ſalutis MDCCXXII. *ætat.* 89.

A ſtone, with the arms of Jegon, for—*William Jegon, A. M. ſome time fellow of King's College, in Cambridge, and thirty years rector of this pariſh, who died November* 18, 1710, *aged* 60.

Suſanna, uxor Caroli Neve, clerici, et hujus eccleſiæ rectoris, ſepulta fuit, Feb. 16, 1672.

Alſo in the church,—*Repoſitæ ſunt hoc ſub marmore, in ſpem beatæ reſurrectionis, exuviæ Thomæ Davy, medicinæ baccalaurei, qui obt.* 23 *die Martij,* 1692, *ætat.* 33.

Upon the lamented death of Thomas Fleming, gent. attorney at law, born in Swanton-Morley, December 24, 1615, *buried here Aug.* 15, 1657.

Weep widows, orphans, all your late ſupport,
Himſelf is ſummon'd to a higher court,
Living he pleaded yours, but with this clauſe,
That Chriſt at's death ſhould only plead his cauſe.

A grave-ſtone,—*In memory of Amya, wife of John Sheldrake, the fifth daughter of Hamond Farrours, of Wendling, gent. buried December* 2, 1658, *ætat* 29.

In October, 1638, Clement Dawbrey, gent. was buried in this church; and in January, 1643, John Wortham, eſq. Here alſo are interred many Parhams, Neves, &c.

Swanton-

Swanton-Morley is a conſiderable village, lying ſouth-weſt of the river Wenſon, and three miles north-eaſt of the market town of Dereham.

TITTLESHALL, or TITTLESHALE*. The principal manor of this town belonged to Norman, a free-man, in the reign of the Confeſſor, and Ralph Turmit held it under lord Bainard at the grand ſurvey, valued at 70s. and one church endowed with ſix acres, valued at 5d. the whole being nine furlongs long, and half a leuca broad, paying 5d. gelt.

William lord Bainard being in a rebellion againſt Henry I. forfeited this lordſhip, &c. which was granted to Robert Fitz-Gilbert, anceſtor of the lords Fitz-Walter.

In the 8th year of king John this lordſhip was in the family of de Capra, Chevere, or Cheffre: Mariota, widow of Nicholas Capra, had then her dower aſſigned her in this town, and Godwick, by Hamon Capra, her ſon.

In the 3d of Henry III. Hamo Chevere held the fourth part of a fee of the barony of Bainard, of Walter Fitz-Robert, and Hamo Chevere was fined ſixty marks in the 22d of that king for ſtriking the king's ſervant.

William Chevere had the grant of a weekly market in this town on Wedneſday, alſo of free-warren in this

* Several towns in England begin with tit, as Titherley, in Hampſhire; Titeherington, in Glouceſterſhire, with Titbury; Tittleſley, in Surry; Tittinanger, in Hertfordſhire, &c. all which are ſeated near ſome ſtream, or rivulet, called probably Tit.—*Parkin.*

this town, Godwick, Wellingham, Whiſſonſet, and Greinſton, September 12, in the 51ſt of Henry III.

Soon after this William de Sutton was lord, in right of Iſabel, his firſt wife, daughter and heireſs of William de Chevere, who was living in the 13th of Edward I.

Sir John Sutton was his ſon and heir, who in right of his wife preſented to the church of Rockland-Tofts in 1358, called ſir John Sutton, of Wivenhoe, in Eſſex; he died before the 8th of Richard II. and left ſir John Sutton, his ſon and heir, who died lord of Tittleſhall in the 17th of Richard II. and left a daughter and heireſs, Margery, married to John Walton, eſq. whoſe heireſs general, Joan Walton, married ſir John Howard, anceſtor of the dukes of Norfolk.

Mr. Parkin proceeds in a long genealogical detail of the collateral branches of this family, which *we* omit for the very reaſon *he* gives for inſerting it, viz. "I have been the more particular in the hiſtory of this family, as ſir Richard de Sutton before-mentioned was the laſt heir male of the eldeſt branch of it, though it does not appear that he had any intereſt in this manor, which came to the Waltons by the marriage of Margery, daughter and heireſs of ſir John Sutton, (elder brother of ſir Richard) to John Walton, eſq."

Joan, daughter and heireſs of John Walton, eſq. brought it by marriage to ſir John Howard, (*alias* John Howard, eſq.) ſon and heir of ſir John Howard, who dying before his father in 1404, the ſaid Joan remarried ſir Thomas Erpingham, and left at her death, in 1424, Elizabeth, a daughter and heireſs, by Howard,

ard, who in 1428 was married to John Vere, earl of Oxford, and ſhe being his widow, held it in the 1ſt of Edward IV. and on the death of John Vere, earl of Oxford, in 1526, without iſſue, it came to his three ſiſters and coheireſſes, Elizabeth, married to Anthony Wingfield; Dorothy, to John Nevile, lord Latimer; and Urſula, to ſir Edward Knightly, which Urſula having no iſſue, this lordſhip was held by the Wingfields and lord Latimer.

Sir Robert Wingfield had livery of a moiety of it in the 1ſt of Elizabeth, in which reign the other moiety was held by lord Latimer, who dying in 1577, his moiety came to his four daughters and coheireſſes; Catherine, married to Henry Percy, earl of Northumberland; Dorothy, to Thomas Cecil, earl of Exeter; Lucy, to ſir William Cornwallis; and Elizabeth, to ſir John Danvers.

In the 29th of Elizabeth Edward Coke, eſq. was lord, and in his family it ſtill remains; the right honorable the earl of Leiceſter died lord in 1759, and Thomas William Coke, eſq. is now lord and patron.

In the 3d of Henry III. Ralph de Rothing held in this town, and Wellingham, half a fee of lord Fitz-Walter, of the barony of Bainard, and William de Rothing claimed a right in the weekly market on Wedneſday, and in the fair, which was on the vigil, the day, and day after St. Margaret.

EARL WARREN'S FEE. In the time of king Edward five free-men held one carucate of land, which Wimer, lord of Greſſenhall, held at the ſurvey under earl Warren; there belonged to it what was valued at 40s. but at the ſurvey at only 30s. this came by an exchange

exchange of lands at Lewes, in Suſſex; and the ſoc was in the king's manor of Mileham. The family of de Verley held it under the Foliots, deſcendents of Wimer, in the 3d of Henry III.

Sir Philip de Verley granted in the 31ſt of Edward I. to ſir Richard de Ely, rector of Tittleſhall, and William de Patteſley, this manor, with the wards, heriots, &c. and the advowſon of the church, in truſt.

In the 6th of Edward II. he granted to Robert Prick, of Freſingfield, in Suffolk, the advowſon of this church, with an half acre of land, and in the ſaid year ſir Philip ſettled this lordſhip (excepting the advowſon and the half acre of land aforeſaid, which we preſume was the church-yard) on Ralph de Bagthorpe, and Iſabel, his wife, one of his daughters and coheireſſes.

The advowſon paſſed through many hands, till in the 34th of Edward III. licence was had of the biſhip of Norwich, and ſir Hugh de Haſtings, knt. chief lord of the fee, in purſuance of the ſtatute of mortmain, to grant it to the prior and convent of Walſingham, with the licence alſo of the duke of Lancaſter.

It ſeems that John de Norwood had king Edward's licence to ſettle it on the maſter and ſcholars of St. Michael's houſe, in Cambridge, which being cancelled, the king in his 33d year granted licence to convey it to the prior, &c. which was accordingly done in his 40th year.

The advowſon was thus ſeparated from the manor, which appears to be in the Bagthorpes in the 20th of Edward III.

COXFORD PRIORY MANOR. In the 9th year of king John, Hamo, the capellan, or chaplain, granted by fine to the prior of Rudham (that is, to Coxford priory, it being in Rudham pariſh) forty-eight acres in Tittleſhall. William de Rothing alſo gave lands to it in the 17th of Edward I.

In the 3d of Henry IV. the prior of Coxford held half a fee of ſir Edward Haſtings, lord of Greſſenhall, and he of the king, as part of the Duchy of Lancaſter; and in 1428 their temporalities were valued in this town at 3l. 6s. 10d. ob.

In the 7th of Henry VIII. the prior had ſixty acres of paſture lying in Pike-hall paſture, and Newhall paſture, with common and ſhack thereto belonging, all demiſed to Henry Fermour, gent. of Eaſt Barſham.

At the diſſolution it was granted to Thomas duke of Norfolk, by the king, May 9, in the 29th of Henry VIII.

In the 9th of Elizabeth, July 14, Thomas duke of Norfolk demiſed to Humphry Bedingfield, of Quiddenham, eſq. for 1000 years, this lordſhip, with meſſuages, lands, &c. in Mileham, &c. part of the poſſeſſions of this priory; Bedingfield ſold it to William Yelverton, ſenior, eſq. about the 30th of the ſaid queen.

September

September 22, in the 17th of Elizabeth, *concealed* lands in this town, &c. belonging to this priory, were granted to John Herbert, and Andrew Palmer.

NEWHALL. Edmund le Blund granted in the 36th of Edward III. to Robert Potter, of Stratton, the fourth part of the manor of Newhall. John Bocking died ſeiſed of it in the 17th of Edward IV.

In the 35th of Henry VIII. Richard Bocking held the manor of Newhall, in Tittleſhall, of Catherine Haſtings, widow, of the honor of Greſſenhall, and of the Duchy of Lancaſter.

John Heydon, eſq. in right of his mother, kept his firſt court July 20, in the 5th of Edward VI.

CALEY'S, and GREINSTON'S MANOR. Simon de Greinſton, and Hamon Thornkyn, held one fee in this town of Richard de Spalding, in the 3d of Henry III. and Richard of the earl of Glouceſter.

In the 35th of Henry III. Reiner de Counte had free-warren, and a market, at Greinſton, by which it appears that there was then a town, or hamlet, alſo of that name.

Peter de Caley conveyed lands here to Richard de Weaſenham in the 52d of that king; and in the following year the ſaid Peter, &c. granted Hamo le Moyne forty acres of land, three of wood, and 8s. rent.

Robert de Greinſton, and Ralph de Caley, held in the 20th of Edward III. one fee of the heirs of Gregory de Spalding; and Ralph Boteler held it in the 3d of Henry IV.

William Wayte, of Tittleſhall, ſeems to have and ſome intereſt in the 5th of Henry V. in land abutting on Greinſton-hall.

In the 36th of Henry VI. January 15, Walter Dorward, citizen of London, and mercer, granted to William Bozoun, of Whiſſonſet, eſq. &c. the manor of Greinſton's, and Caley's, with forty acres of land, called Yarleſhaaugh, in Tittleſhall.

In the 14th of Edward IV. we find here a ſtreet, called Greinſton-ſtreet.

Sir William Fermour, knt. of Eaſt Barſham, ſold to Henry Wayte, of Tittleſhall, gent. and Robert Davy, of Stanfield, yeoman, 100 acres of land in the field-courſe, or ſheep paſture, of Tittleſhall, and Mileham, belonging to the earl of Arundel's manor of Mileham, with the liberty of two fold-courſes thereto belonging, in the 7th of Edward VI.

In the 30th of Elizabeth, Henry Wayte, gent. was lord, and had a *præcipe* to deliver to Thomas Scarlet, gent. and Anthony Cocket, gent. the manors of Greinſton, and Caley's, with meſſuages in this village, Mileham, &c.

In the 37th of Elizabeth, Edward Coke, eſq. was lord of Greinſton, and Caley's, and ſo being united to the capital manor, was poſſeſſed by the earl of Leiceſter at his death, in 1759, and now by Thomas William Coke, eſq. of Holkham.

PEAK-HALL. This was part of the earl of Richmond's manor of Horningtoft, and extended here. Sir Robert de Tye, knt. was lord of this manor of Tittleſhall, and Lanwader, in Weſton, in Eynsford hundred,

hundred, in the 49th of Edward III. and in the 3d of Henry IV. John Tye held half a fee here; but in the 6th of Henry VI. April 10, John Berney, John Lynford, and William Graner, enfeoffed ſir John Faſtolf, knt. &c. in the manor of Peak-hall, in Tittleſhall, Godwick, &c. formerly ſir Robert Tye's, knt. for which ſir John Faſtolf, knt. granted an annuity of twenty marks per ann. for ever, to Berney, Lynford, and Graner, on certain conditions.

In the 14th of Henry VI. Richard Bozoun, of Whiſſonſet, eſq. held in this town, &c. a knight's fee of the honor of Richmond. In the ſaid year he enfeoffed, June 18, ſir John Curſon, knt. &c. herein.

In the 2d of Edward IV. April 24, ſir John Curſon confirmed to Thomas Grey, eſq. of the body to that king, Walter Gorges, &c. this manor, with its villains, &c.

By an indenture, bearing date July 22, in the 20th of Henry VIII. between ſir William Paſton, on one part, and John Bozoun, eſq. of Whiſſonſet, of the other part, the ſaid John ſold to ſir William, and his heirs, all his right in the manor of Peak-hall, and the manor of Bozoun's, in Caſtor. The tenths of the town were 5l. 4s. Deducted 1l.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary. The ancient value was ten marks. Simon biſhop of Norwich confirmed in 1265 to the priory of Caſtle-Acre two parts of the tithes of the demeſnes of Robert de Verley, and a penſion of 46s. 8d. was paid for the ſame annually by the rector. The preſent value is 9l. 12s. 7d.

In the 3d of Philip and Mary the advowſon of this church, on December 22, 1556, (lately in the priory of Walſingham) was granted to Edmund Beaupre, eſq.

In 1630, December 15, the rectory of Tittleſhall, *alias* Tilleſhall, was conſolidated with Godwick; and in 1742 the Rev. William Hoſte was preſented to both by the late earl of Leiceſter, then lord Lovel, of Lovel-minſter, in Oxfordſhire.

The chancel and church are covered with lead, being a ſingle pile, with a ſquare tower, and four bells, and a dormitory on the north ſide, for the family of the Cokes.

A grave-ſtone in the chancel, for—*Abigail, wife of Thomas Haylet, of Godwick, daughter of Chriſtopher Bedingfield, eſq. and Lucy, his wife, late of Wighton, who died October* 16, 1727, *aged* 52.

In the chancel, againſt the north wall, is a marble monument, raiſed altar-ways, with the arms of Coke, per pale, azure and gules, three eaglets diſplayed, argent, impaling Oſborn;—*Here lyeth the body of Robert Coke, of Holkham, eſq. ſon of Richard Coke, and Mary, daughter of ſir John Rous, of Henham-hall, in the county of Suffolk, bart. great-grandchild of Sir Edward Coke, ſome time lord chief juſtice of the King's-Bench, by Henry, his fifth ſon. This Robert married the right honorable lady Ann, daughter of Thomas earl of Danby, lord high treaſurer of England, by lady Bridget, his wife, daughter of Montague earl of Lindſey, lord great chamberlain of England, by whom he had iſſue Elizabeth, a daughter; who died in her infancy, as alſo Edward, his only ſon, now living; he departed this life*

the

the 16th of January, 1679, in the 29th year of his age.

Againſt the ſaid north wall is a curious monument of marble, and in an alcove the effigies of a woman on her knees before a deſk, under her ſix ſons and two daughters, on their knees;—*Bridget, daughter and one of the heireſſes of John Paſton, eſq. firſt wife of Edward Coke, eſq. attorney general, had iſſue by him Edward, Robert, Arthur, John, Henry, Clement, Anne, and Bridget: ſhe deceaſed the 27th of June. anno Dni.* 1598;—On the ſummit it is decorated with a great ſhield, viz. Coke, quartering Criſpin, Folkard, and Pawe, impaling Paſton;—Leach, Somerton, Peper, Walcot, Berry, Craven, and Kerdeſton; Wacheſham, Charles, Hetherſet, Tatſall, Hengrave, Bainard, Mauteby, &c.—On the dexter ſide of this ſhield a ſhield ſtands with the arms of Coke, and on the ſiniſter ſide the arms of Paſton.

At the eaſt end of the ſaid north wall is a beautiful and ſumptuous altar-monument, on which lies the effigy of ſir Edward Coke, in white marble, as a judge in his robes, under an arch ſupported by two black marble pillars; on the ſummit is a ſhield,—Coke quartering, Criſpin, Felmingham, Sparham, Narford, Brecknock, or Yarmouth, Knightley, and Pawe; alſo the figures of the four cardinal virtues, Prudence, Juſtice, Patience, and Fortitude. Motto,—*Prudens, qui patiens.*

Deo Optimo, Maximo.

Hæ exuviæ humanæ expectant reſurrectionem piorum, hic ſitus eſt non perituri nominis Edvardus Coke, eques auratus, legum anima, interpres oraculum non dubium, prm icondus myſteriorum, cujus fere unius beneficio juri-

ſpiriti noſtri ſunt juriſpiriti. Eloquentiæ flumen, torrens, fulmen ſuadæ ſacerdos unicus. Divinus heros, pro roſtris ita dixit, ut liberis infudaſſe crederes, non niſi humanis; ita vixit, ut non niſi divinis. Sacerrimus intimæ pietatis indigator. Integritas ipſa, veræ ſemper cauſæ conſtantiſſimus aſſertor, nec favore, nec muneribus violandus. Eximie miſericors. Charior erat huic reus quam ſibi (miraculi inſtar eſt) ſiccoculus ſæpe audijt ſententiam in ſe prolatam nunquam hic niſi madidoculus protulit.—Scientiæ oceanus, quiq; dum vixit bibliotheca viva, mortuus dici meruit bibliothecæ parens. Duodecim liberorum, tredecim librorum pater. Faceſſant hic monumenta, faceſſant marmora (niſi quod pios fuiſſe denotarint poſteros.) Ipſe ſibi ſuum eſt monumentum marmore perennius, ipſe ſibi ſua eſt æternitas.

" Dedicated to the memory of ſir Edward Coke, a late reverend judge, born at Mileham, in this county of Norfolk, excellent in all learning, divine and human, that for his own, this for his country's good, eſpecially in the knowledge and practice of the municipal laws of this kingdom. A famous pleader, a ſound counſellor; in his younger years recorder of the cities of Norwich and London, next ſolicitor general to queen Elizabeth, and ſpeaker of the parliament in the 35th year of her reign, afterwards attorney general to the ſame queen, as alſo to her ſucceſſor, king James; to both a faithful ſervant for their majeſties ſafeties. By king James conſtituted chief juſtice of both benches ſucceſſively, in both a juſt, in both an exemplary judge. One of his majeſties moſt honorable privy council, as alſo of council to queen Anne, and chief juſtice in *eire* of her foreſts, chaces, and parks. Recorder of the city of Coventry, and high ſteward of the univerſity of Cambridge, whereof he was ſome time a member in Trinity College; he had two wives; by Bridget, his

firſt



B. Reading sculp.t

Sir EDWARD COKE, Knt.

Lord Chief Justice.

Publish'd as the Act directs. Jan.12.th 1779. by M.Booth, Norwich.



firſt wife, (one of the daughters and coheireſſes of John Paſton, eſq.) he had iſſue ſix ſons and three daughters, and by the lady Elizabeth, his ſecond wife, (one of the daughters of the right honorable Thomas earl of Exeter) he had iſſue two daughters: a chaſte huſband and a provident father."

Between this inſcription and the remaining part of the epitaph, are five ſhields of arms,—Coke impaling a quartered ſhield in the firſt, Criſpin; 2d, is obſcure; in the 3d, Folkard; in the 4th, ſable, a chevron, guttee de ſang between three cinque foils, ermin, —Wodehouſe,—and in the 5th, Knightley.

He crowned his pious life with a pious and Chriſtian departure, at Stoke-Poges, in the county of Bucks, on Wedneſday the 3d day of September, *anno Dni.* 1634, and of his age 83.——his laſt words,—"Thy kingdom come, thy will be done."

Learn reader to live ſo, that thou may ſo die.

Mr. John Hargrave, a famous ſtatuary, is ſaid to have made this elegant ſtatue of ſir Edward, and Mr. Nicholas Stone, maſter maſon, to have erected the monument, with its embelliſhments, which coſt 400l.

A grave-ſtone by the communion-table,—*In memory of Nathaniel Ducket, rector of this pariſh* 41 *years, who died October* 28, 1721, *aged* 73.——And of—*Lydia Ducket, widow, who died June* 21, 1683, *aged* 68.

On a mural monument by the pulpit is the ſhield of Coke, with his quarterings;—*Wineſrede, daughter of William Knightley, eſq. by Robert Coke, eſq. her firſt huſband,*

huſband, had iſſue, Edward, Wineſrede, Dorothy, Elizabeth, Anne, Urſula, Margaret, and Andrew; and by her ſecond huſband, Robert Boſanne, eſq. had iſſue John, and was buried January 16, *in the* 11*th year of the reign of queen Elizabeth, anno Dni.* 1569.

Tittleſhall lies on the road from Fakenham to Litcham, and William Colliſon eſq. has a ſeat in the village.

WEASENHAM, or WESSENHAM, ALL SAINTS and ST. PETER. The principal manor of this town was held under Stigand the archbiſhop of Canterbury, in his own right, as a lay-fee, by twelve ſoc-men, in the reign of king Edward, valued at 40s. but at the ſurvey at 60s. which was on account of an exchange of land lately made: the whole was one leuca long, and half a one broad, and paid 20d. gelt, whoſoever was lord. Wimer was then lord under the earl Warren.

EAST-HALL. Wimerus, who was *dapifer* to the ſaid earl, was enfeoffed by him in this and many other lordſhips; from Wimer's family and deſcendents it came to the Stuteviles, then to the Foliots and Haſtings'; but on the death of John Haſtings, eſq. of Greſſenhall, his two ſiſters were his heireſſes; Ann, married to William Browne, eſq. ſecond ſon of ſir Anthony Browne, maſter of the horſe to Henry VIII. &c. and Elizabeth, married to Hamon le Strange. eſq. of Hunſtanton; and on a diviſion of the Haſtings' inheritance, this lordſhip was aſſigned to Ann, the eldeſt ſiſter and coheireſs. Anthony Browne was lord in 1572. From the Brownes it came to Richard Jackſon, eſq. the preſent lord, 1757.

CASTLE ACRE PRIORY MANOR. This was made up of ſeveral benefactions to the ſaid priory. In a charter of William the ſecond earl Warren, about the year 1100, it appears that Wimer *Dapifer*, before-mentioned, had given all the land which his nephew, Jeffrey, the capellan, held of him. 2s. rent in land here, and 2s. in Greſſenhall, to that priory. Roger, ſon of William *Dapifer*, ſewer, or ſeneſchal, to the earl Warren, gave lands, with the homages of certain perſons. Drogo, another ſon, gave, or confirmed, the two churches of St. Peter and St. Paul, of Weaſenham, with the tithe of his demeſne, 14s. rent per ann. in land, and the tithe of Herbald, his man.

Iſabella de Greſſenhall quit-claimed to them the homage, and tenemented Hugh de Creek in Weaſenham; this Iſabel was a deſcendent of Wimer, and aſſumed the name of de Greſſenhall; ſhe married, firſt, Beringer de Creſſy, then William de Huntingfield, and after Oſmund de Stutevile; this Oſmund, in his confirmation of the grants of the family of Wimer, &c. in or about the year 1220, excepts the advowſons of the churche of St. Peter and St. Paul, which had been granted to this priory.

Ralph Fitz-Stephen de Upgate, in Weaſenham Thorpe, gave a meſſuage, croft, with land and rent here. Several other benefactions were given; and in the 15th of Edward I. the prior, as lord, claimed the aſſize of bread and beer of his tenants, view of frank-pledge, &c.

On the diſſolution it came to the Southwells, and then to lord chief juſtice Coke, in whoſe family it ſtill remains, the late earl of Leiceſter dying lord in 1759, and Thomas William Coke, eſq. is now lord.

Sir

Sir Richard Southwell, May 5, in the 37th of Henry VIII. had a grant of it, with the manors of Wendling, &c. in exchange for Haynford, Upton manor.

At the ſurvey we find another lordſhip in this town belonging to the Conqueror, and farmed of him, or kept by Godric; but the ſoc belonged to Stigand's manor of Mileham, which was at the ſurvey farmed, or kept, by William de Noiers, as ſteward to the king, who was lord of Mileham, and this was valued in Sporle.

North-Hall. In the 3d year of Henry III. Thomas de Weaſenham held half a fee of the honor of Mileham, which belonged to John le Strange, who held it of the Fitz-Alans, barons of Clun, and they *in capite* of the king; and Gilbert de Weaſenham in the 26th of the ſaid reign paid half a mark fine for *not* accompanying the king into Gaſcoigne.

Thomas Fitz-Alan, of Weaſenham, was lord in the 3d of Edward I. and claimed the aſſize of bread and beer, &c. of his tenants; and Robert Weaſenham was lord in the 9th of Edward II.

In the 1ſt of Edward III. John de Bokenham, parſon of Intwood, conveyed to Roger de Weaſenham the manor of North-hall, in Weaſenham.

Of this family, and probably lord of this manor, was ſir John de Weaſenham, knt. who in the 23d of the ſaid king, being then the king's butler, *(pincerna regis)* had a grant, or licence, to take 12d. of every hogſhead, and 2s. of every pipe of wine imported into England by merchants-ſtrangers, who being alſo a rich merchant of London, had about this time the king's

king's crown in pawn; and in the 34th of the ſaid reign was, with ſir Robert de Cauſton, in commiſſion to ſeize all ſhips from the mouth of the Thames northward, to the king's uſe, and to provide them with men at arms, archers, &c. to reſiſt the French then threatening an invaſion; and in the 2d year of Richard II. John de Wenſenham conveyed this lordſhip to John de Leverington. Soon after this it came to the Beaupres, and Nicholas Beaupre. eſq. in the 3d of Henry IV. held the fourth part of a fee of the earl of Arundel.

In the 24th of Henry VIII. Nicholas Beaupre, eſq. of Outwell, was lord of North-hall manor, in this town; and Edmund, his ſon, conveyed it in the 36th of that king to Nicholas Rookwood, eſq. and not long after we find it in the family of the Southwells; and in the year 1560 Sir Richard Southwell was lord of North-hall manor, and paid a rent of 27s. to the lord of Eaſt-hall, due from that of North-hall.

In the 40th of Elizabeth it was poſſeſſed by Edward Coke, eſq. afterwards lord chief juſtice, lord alſo of North-hall Kipton's, Weaſenham Kipton, Weaſenham Caſtle Ace, Fulcher's, Moll's, and Gamage's, and John Coke was lord in 1659, in which family it remained, the right honorable the earl of Leiceſter dying lord in 1759: Thomas William Coke, eſq. is the preſent lord.

We have ſeen an old writing, wherein it is ſaid, that Edric held, in the time of the Confeſſor, 80 acres of land in this town, with a church of 18 acres, valued at 18d. and Edric had added to it two ſocmen. That afterwards Ralph earl of Norfolk and the king had the ſoc, and it was valued at 5s. but at the

ſurvey

ſurvey Ralph had forfeited his right, and Godric held it of Alan earl of Richmond.

In a valuable copy of the book of Doomſday, for this county, which we have conſulted, under the titles of the king's land, and that of Godric held for the king, alſo that of Alan earl of Richmond, we have not met with the account as above repreſented. That there was land in this town belonging to the earl of Richmond, we ſhall ſhew, but then it belonged to the lordſhip of Horningtoft, which extended into Weaſenham. This was called Kipton, and is accounted for by Mr. Parkin in the pariſh of Horningtoft, but we have more properly arranged it with Weaſenham, the pariſh it belongs to.

KIPTON, or CHIPETUNA, as it is wrote in Doomſday-book. This was one of the king's lordſhips at the ſurvey, and farmed, or held, of him by Godric, and before that by Aluric and Alſer. The whole, with Horningtoft, was valued at the ſurvey at 7l. of the nine ſocmen Stigand had the ſoc in king Edward's time, and Ralph earl of Norfolk had invaded, or ſeized on it, before he forfeited it by his rebellion, and upon that forfeiture Godric held it of the king. It was meaſured with Horningtoft, and they were both eight furlongs long, and five broad, and paid four pence gelt.

This lordſhip was granted ſoon after the ſurvey to Alan earl of Richmond, and in the 8th year of Edward I. ſir Robert de Tatteſhale held one knight's fee here, in Horningtoft and Whiſſonſet, of the honor of Richmond, paying 10s. ward to the caſtle yearly, and theſe lordſhips were then valued by an extent at 40l. per annum. Thomas Burt claimed free-warren in his demeine here, and in Horningtoft, in the 15th

of

of Edward I. and held it of the Tatteſhale's. In the 31ſt year of the reign of that king, Gregory de Caſtello, and Hugh de Sprouſton, held the ſame, and in the 41ſt of Henry VI. John duke of Bedford died ſeiſed of it, held of him by Thomas Lucas, and belonging to the manor of Swaffham, being parcel of Richmond honor.

In the 36th of Henry VIII. the king granted licence to Mary ducheſs of Richmond and Somerſet to alien this manor to Thomas Brooke and John Williams; and in the ſaid year, October 28, the king granted to Thomas Wrotteſley a manor and meſſuages, lands and a fen, in the tenure of ſir Roger Townſhend, lately belonging to Weſtacre priory.

Roger Townſhend, ſon and heir of ſir Roger, was poſſeſſed of it in the 7th of Elizabeth, in which family it ſtill remains, a moiety of the old Richmond fee.

The town has been quite demoliſhed many years; it ſtood probably near to the place called Kipton-Aſh, where there is kept a great ſheep fair, Auguſt 24, yearly, and is now in the pariſh of Weaſenham.

Godfrey de Liſewis gave twelve acres of land, lying at *Ciptune Blachehoe*; and by another deed, twenty-four acres, lying on the heath of *Kypton Blakehoe*.

In the 17th of Edward II. Henry de Sprouſton granted to Thomas de Stirſton the manor of Kipton. Thomas paying to Henry an annuity of 20l. per annum.

John Wharles, or Quarles, of Holkham, conveyed in the 7th of Henry IV. to John Felbrigg, and —— Gurney,

——— Gurney, 100 acres of land, &c. in Weaſenham, Rainham, and the moiety of the manor of Kipton; and Thomas Lucas, of Holkham, eſq. had the manor of Kipton, lying in Weaſenham, and Rainham, in 1446; he inherited it as heir to the Neals, of Holkham.

After this it came to the Southwells, and ſir Robert Southwell died ſeiſed of it in the 6th of Henry VIII. In a *computus* of John Forbie, ſteward to ſir Richard Southwell, in the 3d of Elizabeth, it appears that the rent of aſſize of the free and bond tenants was 57s. 9d. ob.—rent of capons 3s.—farm of the demeſnes 9l. 11s. 6d.—for 830 ſheep, at 30s. per hundred, 12l. 9s. 9d.—perquiſites of court 12d.—rents paid to the bailiff of the honor of Richmond 5s. per ann.—to the bailiff of the duke of Norfolk's manor of Caſtle Acre priory 21d. ob.—to the rector of South Rainham, late belonging to the priory of Blackborough, 6d. per ann.—to the bailiff of the manor of Scales, in South Rainham, 12d. and Mdm. an arrear of rent of fifteen years, from the executors of ſir Roger Townſhend, 15s. 8d.

In the 40th of Elizabeth it belonged to Edward Coke, eſq. afterwards lord chief juſtice; this ſeems to be a part of the old Richmond fee, and is ſtill in the family, the right honorable the earl of Leiceſter held it at his death, in 1759. A rent of 5s. per annum is paid to the manor of Swaffham for Kipton-Green, in Weaſenham.

Horningtoft was at the ſurvey a very conſiderable lordſhip, and farmed of, or kept by Godric, for the king, and was not granted to the earl of Richmond till after the ſurvey, as appears from the ſtate of that town in the book of Doomſday.

In

In the 3d of Henry III. Peter de Narford granted to John de Narford a carucate of land here, and Thomas Buhord was querent, and Simon de Rudham deforcient, in a fine levied in the 15th of the ſaid king, at Weſtminſter, of certain cuſtoms and ſervices for lands in Weaſenham Thorpe, Thomas requiring Simon to pay 8s. per ann. and foreign ſervice, with 8d. to the cuſtody of Richmond-caſtle, and that Simon ſhould carry his arms at the charge of the ſaid Thomas, as often as the king was with his army.

Roger de la-Ware impleaded ſeveral perſons in the 10th of Edward I. for lands in Hey-Weaſenham, &c. as his right, whereof his anceſtors were ſeiſed in the time of king John.

The temporalities of Caſtle-acre priory, in 1428, were 2l. 3s. 9d. ob.—of Weſt-acre 8s. 9d.—of Maſſingham priory 5s. concealed lands in Weaſenham-thorpe, belonging to the rectory, granted by the abbot of Wendling to John Corbet, paying 3s. 4d. per annum, were given by queen Elizabeth, February 9. in her 12th year, to Nicholas Mynn. William, the third earl Warren, &c. confirmed to the monks of Caſtle-acre the advowſon of the churches of Weaſenham-thorpe All Saints, and St. Peter, with the appurtenances, and the tythe of the demeſne of Wimer, the *dapifer*.

In the 40th of Henry III. the prior, and convent of Caſtle-acre, conveyed to William de Stutevile, lord of this town, the advowſon of the ſaid two churches, with that of Eaſt Lexham, and Stutevile granted back to the prior the church of St. Andrew, of Eaſt Lexham, reſerving to the prior the old penſion out of the ſaid churches of Weaſenham. And

in the following year the ſaid two churches were granted to the abbey of Wendling, by the ſaid William de Stutevile, and were afterwards appropriated to the ſaid Abbey, and vicarages were eſtabliſhed. By the conſent of the biſhop of Norwich, a compoſition was made in 1320, by which the prior of Caſtle-acre let to perpetual farm to the abbot and convent of Wendling two parts of the tythes of the garbs, or corn tythe, of the demeſne which formerly belonged to William de Stutevile, Alan Fitz-Roger, and John Lambert, in the fields of Weaſenham, for 4l. ſterling per annum, viz. to the prior 40s. to the ſacriſt 40s.

The ancient value of the rectory of the church of All Saints was 18 marks, and St. Peter's 20 marks. The preſent value of theſe two vicarages united is 15l. 19s. 11d.

Maſter Lambert was inſtituted rector of St. Peter's, with the chapel of St. Paul annexed, alſo the church of St. Andrew, of Eaſt Lexham, preſented by the prior and convent of Caſtle-acre about the year 1195.

In 1309, John de Tuttington was collated by the biſhop of Norwich to the vicarage of All Saints Weaſenham, and St. Peter's of Weaſenham-thorpe, with the chapel of St. Paul annexed. And in 1349 it appears that the abbot, &c. of Wendling, preſented at the biſhop's nomination.

In the 50th year of Edward III. the vicar had a patent to enlarge his manſe. The biſhop of Norwich nominated to theſe vicarages till the diſſolution, after that the crown had the patronage, and in 1729 the rev. John Franklin was preſented by George II.

At

At the ſouth-eaſt end of the nave, or body of the church, was the ſtone ſtaircaſe leading up to the old rood loft; over the door, or entrance, we ſaw ſome years paſt an old painted board, with the portraiture of Henry VI. painted thereon, in his robes, with the arms of France and England, quarterly, and—*Rex Henricvs Sextvs*,—with an Antelope at his feet.

In a north window of the chancel are the arms of Grey, of Rotherfield.

This church of All Saints, called South Weaſenham church, has a nave, north aile, chancel, and a ſquare tower. The church of St. Peter has a nave, north and ſouth aile, with a chancel, covered with lead.

The village of Weaſenham lies on the road from Fakenham, ſeven miles, to Swaffham nine. The two churches are about three quarters of a mile diſtant, and Richard Jackſon, eſq. member of Parliament for the cinque-port of New Romney, in Kent, king's counſel, counſel to the board of trade, bank, and ſouth-ſea company, and one of the counſel to the univerſity of Cambridge, is the preſent lord.—He was named in the commiſſion ſent in 1778, to treat with the American colonies, but, we believe, declined that high office appointed by parliament.

WELLINGHAM is wrote Walnecham in the grand ſurvey, "being, according to Parkin, a ham, with a wet ing, or mound, againſt the water, as Walpole, Walton, &c." and was at that time the lordſhip of Ralph lord Bainard, and owned by Harold in king Edward's time, who was afterwards king of England; and three ſocmen of Stigand then belonged to it, who held of the king's manor of Mileham,

and paid there all cuſtomary dues. It was delivered up during Stigand's life to lord Bainard, by an exchange.

The manor was valued in the reign of king Edward at 20s. and 10s. at the ſurvey, and the ſoccage part then at 4s. at the ſurvey at 40d. The whole was one leuca long, nine furlongs broad, and paid 10d. gelt, whoever was lord of it.

BAINARD'S FEE, FREVILE'S MANOR. Michael Capra granted in the 10th of Richard I. two carucates of land in this village to William de Huntingfield, and Iſabel, his wife, and the heirs of Iſabel, to be held of Michael, of Bainard caſtle, in London.

The family of de Capra, Cheffre, or Chevere, as they are wrote, were lords of part of this town, and of Tittleſhall.

In the 3d of Henry III. Baldwin de Frevile held the fourth part of a fee of Walter Fitz-Robert; and at the ſame time Thomas Coble, and his parceners, held lands in ſoccage.

It is not from our purpoſe here to obſerve, that William lord Bainard, grandſon to the aforeſaid Ralph, taking part with Helias earl of Mayne, Philip de Braoſe, William Malet, and other conſpirators againſt Henry I. forfeited his barony of Bainard, the head whereof was Bainard's caſtle, by the Thames ſide, to the ſouth of St. Paul's cathedral, and which gives name to one of the wards of that city, which, on his forfeiture, was granted by that king to Robert, a younger ſon of Richard Fitz-Gilbert, pregenitor to the ancient earls of Clare, from which Robert the noble

noble family of Fitz-Walter, barons of the realm, did deſcend.

In the 15th of Edward I. Baldwin de Frevile had free warren in his demeſne lands, and died lord in the 17th of the ſaid king.

An agreement was made in the 6th of Edward II. between ſir Alexander Frevile and Clementia le Strange, late wife of John le Strange, the ſaid Alexander having lett to her this lordſhip, and that of Weaſenham, for life; ſhe covenants to keep all buildings in repair, and after ſix years to pay 40l. rent per ann. and if dying before the ſix years, her heirs to hold it under the ſame covenants, and for an income ſhe paid forty marks. In the 20th of Edward III. Baldwin de Frevile held one fee of lord Fitz-Walter.

Soon after this it came to the family of de Bello-Prato, or Beaupre, and Thomas Beaupre preſented to the rectory of the *Tertia Pars* of this church in 1349.

This Thomas was a perſon of eminence in the county of Cornwall in the reign of Edward III. and appears to be a knight in the year 1332; whoſe ſon, Nicholas, ſucceeded him, and held it of the earl of Rutland in the 3d of Henry IV. In the Beaupres it remained till the death of Edmund Beaupre, eſq. of Outwell, in 1567, the laſt heir male of that family.

After this it came to ſir Robert Bell, lord chief baron of the Exchequer, who was lord of this manor in right of Dorothy, his wife, one of the daughters and coheireſſes of Edmund Beaupre aforeſaid; and

Edmund Bell, ſon and heir of ſir Robert, had livery of it about the 20th of Elizabeth.

Sir Edward Coke was lord in the reign of James I. John Coke, eſq. in 1659; and the earl of Leiceſter died lord in 1759. Thomas William Coke, eſq. of Holkham, is now lord and patron.

SOUTH-HALL was that part of this town which belonged to the Conqueror's manor of Mileham, held by the ſocmen of Stigand, archbiſhop of Canterbury, on whoſe depoſition it was granted by the king to Alan, ſon of Flaald, together with the capital manor of Mileham, ſoon after the ſurvey; for at that time it was in the Conqueror's hands, and farmed of him by William de Noiers.

Alan was anceſtor to the noble family of the Fitz-Alans, earls of Arundel, and granted this, with the hundreds of Launditch and South Greenhoe, and other lordſhips, to Seward, anceſtor of a family who aſſumed the name of le Strange.

In the 33d of Edward I. John le Strange, of Litcham, held a meſſuage and lands here of the heirs of Richard Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel, by the ſervice of 10s. per ann. and in the ſaid year forty-four meſſuages, ſeventy-three acres of land, twelve of meadow, 45s. rent, and the rent of ſix quarters of barley, with three of oats, in this town, Weaſenham, and Franſham, with the advowſon of the church of Wellingham, were conveyed to him.

In the 4th year of Edward II. Ralph le Strange granted by fine to John, ſon of Gilbert, and his heirs, this manor and advowſon, &c. This John was father of Richard, who was the firſt of his family that took

took the name of Beaupre from his lordſhip of Outwell, ſeated on rich meadow lands and paſtures. Thomas de Beaupre was ſon of Richard, and lord of both manors, viz. of Frevile's, and South-hall, in this town, and a rent out of this manor is paid to the manor of Mileham. The tenths were 2l.—Deduct 6s. 8d.

The church of Wellingham is dedicated to St. Andrew, to which there belonged two rectories; one called the portion of John, who was rector in the reign of Henry III. valued at ſeven marks per ann. this conſiſted of two parts of the tithes of the pariſh; the other, called the portion of Roger, valued at four marks, which had the third part of the tithes; the prior of St. Faith's, at Horſham, had a portion alſo of tithes, valued at 6s. 3d. per ann.

The rectory of the two parts ſeems to be in the Arundel's fee, and the third part in the fee of Bainard; and in the reign of king John, Roger de Frevile impleaded Michael Capra, to ſhow cauſe why he brought a *quare impedit* againſt him, and hindered him in preſenting a proper perſon to the rectory of the third part of this church. The preſent value is 5l. 8s. 6d. and is diſcharged. The two rectories ſeem to be united about the year 1391.

In 1755 the Rev. Thomas George was preſented to the rectory of Wellingham by the late earl of Leiceſter.

The church is about a mile north-weſt of Litcham, ſtands on an eminence, and hath three bells.

WENDLING, ſo called as lying by meadows on a winding water, or rivulet, was the manor of the abbot of

Bury in the time of the Confeſſor, and at the ſurvey was held of the abbot by Richard, or Ricaiard, valued then at 20s. but at the ſurvey at 30s. was nine furlongs long, and ſix broad, and paid 11d ob. gelt.

In the 6th year of Richard I. a fine was levied before the king's juſtices, between William de Huntingfield and the abbot of Bury, whereby William quitclaimed all his right in this town, and advowſon of the church, to the abbot, on which the abbot conveyed to him, and his heirs, the whole townſhip of Wendling, to be held of the ſaid abbot, and his ſucceſſors, by the ſervice and payment of 60s. rent per ann. and they were to hold the men and tenants of the town by the ſame ſervices and cuſtoms which they performed to the abbot's predeceſſors before William de Greſſenhall held the ſame.

In 1218 William de Saham, clerk, held lands in this town, and was a benefactor to Wendling abbey.

The abbot of Bury about the year 1298 granted 50s. per annum rent to William de Saham, which the convent received of ſir Jordan Foliot, lord of this town, and of the honor of Greſſenhall; and in the 3d of Edward I. ſir Adam Foliot, lord, had the aſſize, &c.

HEREFORD'S MANOR. This was held of the honor of Greſſenhall, and extended into this town; Thomas de Hereford poſſeſſed it in 1277; and ſir Warin de Hereford in 1300. It afterwards came to the Ferrours, and John Ferrour died ſeiſed of it in 1483.

In the 13th of Charles I. Hamon Ferrour, gent. died poſſeſſed of a capital meſſuage, divers cloſes and

and lands in this town, and Greſſenhall, held of the manor of Greſſenhall in ſoccage, paying 20s. per ann. he died Auguſt 9, 1637, and left ſix daughters and coheireſſes; Mary, aged 20, Martha, Elizabeth, Honoria, Anna, and Judith.

HERRINGSHAW and DIKEWOOD MANORS. The monks of Caſtle Acre had a manor here belonging to the earl Warren's fee, &c.

In the 4th of king John Peter de Watlington granted to the prior of Caſtle Acre ſixty acres of land in Great and Little Dikewood, and Launditch; and in the 5th of the ſaid king, Elfer, and Alice, his wife, granted to the ſaid monaſtery forty acres of land in Herringſhaw.

Henry III. by a charter dated at Walſingham, March 15, in his 40th year, granted to the ſaid priory free-warren in all their demeſne lands in Herringſhaw and Kempſtone.

In the regiſter of Caſtle Acre priory, lately in lord Oxford's library, are many grants, without date, of lands here to the ſaid priory.

It appears that Dikewood was alſo a manor belonging to the ſaid priory, and was conveyed as ſuch by the prior of Caſtle Acre, in the 29th of Henry VIII. to that king, with the manor of Herringſhaw; and in 1634 there were then a court-leet, court-baron, and about twenty ſuitors, ſome free, but moſt copyholders, belonging to it. The fines and profits of court were, at that time, 3l. per ann. and ſir Edward Coke, impropriator of Wendling, received 5l. in lieu of tithes.

The

The manors of Herringſhaw, otherwiſe Heringſhall, and Dikewood, are in Wendling, and extend into Greſſenhall, Longham, Beeſton, and Great Franſham: theſe manors were granted by Henry VIII. with ſeveral other manors in Norfolk, to Thomas duke of Norfolk, and his heirs. Afterwards ſir Thomas Greſham, knt. was ſeiſed of theſe manors, and he and Ann, his lady, (the daughter of William Fernley, eſq. and widow of William Reade, eſq.) about 1570 conveyed them to ſir William Reade, knt. (her ſon, by William, her firſt huſband) and his heirs, who ſettled them on Mary, his wife, and ſhe ſurviving him, married ſir Edward Spencer, knt. who in 1626 was lord of theſe manors in her right. In 1664 Leiceſter viſcount Hereford, the earl of Deſmond, and Bridget, viſcounteſs, his wife, and lord Berkeley, ſold and conveyed theſe manors, with the manor of Weſt Braddenham, in the hundred of South Greenhoe, to Henry Warner, eſq. of Mildenhall, in Suffolk, who in 1683 ſold theſe manors, and Weſt Braddenham, to ſir Samuel Thomſon, of London, knt. and he in 1690 ſettled them on the marriage of Robert Thomſon, his ſon, of the Inner Temple, London, eſq. after whoſe deceaſe they veſted in William Thomſon, eſq. the great grandſon of ſir Samuel; and in 1756 theſe manors, and Weſt Braddenham, were ſold by decree in Chancery, and purchaſed by by James Smyth, of Weſt Braddenham, eſq. who is the preſent lord.

Castle Acre Priory Manor. This was made up of benefactions granted to the convent, William de Stutevile, lord of Greſſenhall, granted in the 29th of Henry III. to the prior and convent, all his right in all the lands and tenements which the prior, &c. and their men, held in villainage in the towns and fields of Wendling, and Hyngeſham, and all purpreſtures

preſtures made by the prior and his men, to Eaſter-day in the ſaid year; and the prior remitted to William all the land which his men held in vallainage of the prior, in the ſaid towns, and purpreſtures there made, to the ſaid time; and alſo gave to William 40s. of ſilver.

In the 3d of Edward I. the prior had free-warren here, and in Herringſhaw, aſſize of bread and beer, view of frank-pledge, &c.

In 1428 their temporalities here were valued at 5l. 17s. per ann. and on the diſſolution it was granted by the prior of Caſtle Acre to Henry VIII. in his 29th year.

In the 35th of Henry VIII. it was granted to Robert Hogan, eſq. and Thomas, his ſon and heir, held it in the 2d of Edward VI. and had then licence to alien two cloſes here, called Some's, and Little Gunton's, to Bridget Hogan, and Wendling cloſe to Thomas Caton.—The tenths were 1l. 19s. Deducted 6s.

WENDLING ABBEY was founded about the 52d year of Henry III. by ſir William de Wendling, called in ſome records *Clerk*, ſon of William, and in others, ſon of John de Wendling; he ſeems to be the ſame William de Wendling who was one of the king's judges, or juſtices, in the 55th year of the ſaid king: it was for canons of the Premonſtratenſian order, or that of St. Norbert, and dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin.

Sir William de Wendling, ſon of William de Wendling, gave them the church of St. Clement of Conisford, in Norwich, with ſeveral houſes near to it,

it, and a key, or ſtaithe, which Simon abbot of Langley, in Norfolk, at the requeſt of ſir Jeffrey de Lodnes, and for 3s. annual rent, confirmed to the ſaid ſir William, who in 1267 ſettled it, with ten acres of land in Wendling, (on which the abbey was built) with 3s. rent in Baldeſwell, on this abbey, founded, as Blomefield ſays, on his manor of Wendling. It does not appear that ſir William had any lordſhip here.

Gilbert de Franſham's manor of Franſham *Magna* extended into this town, and gave his conſent, as capital lord of part of the land belonging to his fee.

The principal lord here was Robert de Stutevile, ſon of William de Stutevile, lord of the honor of Greſſenhall, who granted to the church of St. Mary, of Wendling, in 1273, the whole ſcite of the new work of the abbey church there, ſaving to himſelf and to his heirs the patronage of it.

Sir William de Wendling alſo in 1267 ſettled on the abbot of Wendling, and his ſucceſſors, five meſſuages, eighty-ſeven acres of land, a mill, and 10s. rent, &c. in Scarning; he alſo granted to them the church of Langham, which was appropriated to them, and that of Wendling. He was rector of Bodham, in Holt hundred; and in the 41ſt of Henry III. William de Wendling, clerk, was the king's eſcheator.

William de Saham in 1281 ſettled divers lands and tenements in Wendling on the abbot and canons, on condition that they paid five marks per ann. to his chantry chaplain, officiating in his chapel of St. Andrew, of Saham-Tony. This William was a juſtice intinerant

itinerant in 1276; and in 1282 juſtice of the King's-bench.

In the 53d of Henry III. they had a patent for the patronage of a moiety of Burnham Ulp, Burnham All Saints, and St. Margaret's, and the advowſon of Yaxham. The abbot and convent had alſo a lordſhip in Feltwell, and the lordſhip of Gunton's, in Scarning.

In 1330 lady Margaret Foliot, patroneſs of it, was buried before the high altar in the preſbytery of the conventual church, on the north ſide.

The donations of the founder, with thoſe of Reyner de Gimmingham, Robert de Stutevile, and Jordan Foliot, knights, were in the 6th of Edward III. confirmed.

The abbots were admitted by the biſhop of Norwich.

At the diſſolution it was valued at 55l. 18s. 4d. per ann. and was ſeated in a marſh, or low ground, with a ſmall rivulet to the ſouth; the entrance into the abbey-court was on the weſt, which court was on the north ſide of the conventual church, and the church-yard, both of theſe taking in about two acres of ground.

The church, as well as it can now be traced, (moſt of the very foundation ſtones being dug up and carried away to mend the roads) was, together with the preſbytery, or chancel, about 72 paces long, and, with the north and ſouth ailes, about 18 broad; part of the wall of the weſt end of the church is ſtill ſtanding, covered with ivy, and the wall of the church-yard

yard was close to the river, running south of it. Not long before its suppression here were an abbot and six canons.

A late author says, that it was granted by queen Elizabeth, in her 16th year, to Edward Dyer, esq.

Sir Henry Spelman observes, that it was not dissolved by the statute, or act, of Henry VIII. but before the general dissolution, by a bull of pope Clement VII. dated May 14, 1528, and granted to cardinal Wolsey for the erection of his two colleges of Christ-church, in Oxford, and that of Ipswich, and was farmed of Christ College by Thomas Hogan, esq. of East Braddenham.

On the 11th of December Henry VIII. in his 38th year, granted it to the dean and chapter of Christ-church, in Oxford, of his own foundation.

The king had granted it again, in his 37th year, May 5, to sir Richard Southwell, who reconveyed it, on an exchange for other lands, in the 38th of the said king, and it remains at this time in the dean, &c. aforesaid. This is to be understood of the manor and lands in Wendling, and not of the appropriation.

The church of Wendling was appropriated to the abbey, valued at five marks, and dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul; it is covered with lead, and has a square steeple, with three bells; the late earl of Leicester was impropriator, as Thomas William Coke, esq. now is.

Here are several grave-stones,—*In memory of Mr. Farrour Markant, who died June* 6, 1675.—*Thomas Markant,*

Markant, gent. who died, aged 52, 1649.—*John Hammont, gent. who died November* 13, 1678, *aged* 20.—*Hillary Forby, who died November* 26, 1658, *aged* 59.—*Hillary Forby, jun. who died December* 24, 1673, *aged* 13.—*Mrs. Mary Forby, who died July* 21, 1677, *aged* 22.

We have ſeen a writing, expreſſing, "that this impropriate rectory was granted by queen Elizabeth, in her 4th year, with that of Langham, to Arthur Futter, gent. and that *concealed* lands belonging to it were granted in her 12th year, February 9, to Nicholas Mynns."—William Futter was impropriator in the 35th of Elizabeth, and ſoon after ſir Edward Coke purchaſed it, 1630.

In 1775 the Rev. Thomas Wigg Hancock was preſented to this curacy by the late Wenman Coke, eſq. of Holkham.

Wendling is a village, lying on the turnpike road from Eaſt Dereham, three miles and a half, to Swaffham eight and a half, and extending northwards towards Longham.

WHISSONSET, or WISSINGSET, (wrote Witchingheſeta in Doomſday-book) ſo called as ſet, or ſeated, in or near a wet watry meadow, was granted by the Conqueror to Roger Bigot, one of his chieftains, anceſtor to the Bigots, earls of Norfolk, valued at 40s. but at the ſurvey at 60s. three freemen belonged to the ſoc of the king's manor of Mileham; the whole was half a leuca long, and half a one broad, and paid 10d. gelt, whoever was poſſeſſed of it.

Sir

Sir Henry Spelman, in his Icenia, ſays, "that Hubert Bozun, a Norman, who came into England with the Conqueror, and was his chief *fletcher*, had a grant from him of this lordſhip for his ſervices;" but this appears to us to be a miſtake.

The firſt of the family that we meet with in ancient records, is Herbert, or Hubert Bozun, who lived in the reign of king Stephen, &c. and granted to the monks of Caſtle Acre eight acres of land, which Hubert probably deſcended from Ralph, ſon of Walter, who was enfeoffed herein by Roger Bigot.

Boujon in French ſignifies an arrow, with a great or broad head, and for ſome eminence and excellency in the uſe of ſuch a weapon, the anceſtor of this ancient family might aſſume this name, or hold ſome lordſhip, or fee, by it, and on that account they might bear, as we find, for their arms—argent, three boujons, gules, feathered, and knobbed, or headed, or.

In the red-book of the Exchequer, under the title of *ſerjeanteria*, in Drakelowe, Derbyſhire, William de Greſley held a manor,—*P. unum arcum ſine corda, et pharetro, et duodecim ſagittas, et unum bozonem.*

Roger Bozun was living in 1202, ſon of Hubert, and purchaſed lands in Ovington, in Norfolk. In 1227 Peter Bozun, ſon of Roger, had the advowſon of the church of Ovington, which Peter, in or about 1233, was, with William Ruſtain, a collector of the aid in Norfolk and Suffolk, granted to Henry III. for marrying his ſiſter to the emperor.

In

In the 41ſt of Henry III. John Bozun was preſented as holding a knight's fee, and to be of full age, and not a knight; and in the 48th of that king had a grant of a free-warren in all his demeſne lands here and in Ovington.

After this time, or about 1270, an agreement was made between Peter Bozun, lord of Whiſſonſet, and ſir Thomas Burt, lord of Horningtoft, about the extent of their commons, which was ſettled by arbitration. This Peter, then a knight, died about the 16th of Edward I. and held three knights fees of ſir John de Vaux, and he of Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk: of this family were the Bozuns of Devonſhire.

The Bozuns remained lords of Whiſſonſet, Ovington, and Yelverton, in Norfolk; and John Bozun in the 33d of Edward III. was in the retinue of John de Montague, and on travelling into foreign parts, had the king's letters of protection; and in 1380 preſented to this church; he was alſo lord of Greinſton's, in Tittleſhall, held of lord Roos, and he of lord Mowbray.

Richard Bozun, eſq. was lord in the 5th of Henry V. and dying in 1430, was buried in the chancel of this church. William, his ſon and heir, died in 1460, and lies buried in the church-yard. John Bozun, eſq. his ſon, married Eleanor, daughter of ſir Edward Wodehouſe, of Kimberley, relict of Edmund Haſtings, eſq. John dying in 1489, he was ſucceeded by John Bozun, eſq. his ſon and heir, who married Elizabeth, daughter of ——— Rouncey, of Bretaigne, in France, and preſented in 1555; he left Robert, his ſon and heir, who preſented in 1567, and in 1577 had Roger, his ſon and heir, who married Ann, daughter of ſir Hamon le Strange, of Hunſtanton;

and in the 6th year of James I. in conſideration of a marriage between Hamon, his ſon and heir, and Frances, daughter of ſir Thomas Playters, of Sotterley, in Suffolk, ſettled this manor and advowſon on his ſon and heir, in reverſion, after the deceaſe of himſelf, and Ann, his wife.

Hamon Bozun, eſq. had by Frances, his wife, three ſons, Thomas, Roger, William, and ſeveral daughters; Elizabeth, married to Chriſtopher Crowe, eſq. of Eaſt Bilney; Ann, to Bartholomew Johnſon, of Bittering: Catherine, to William Harman, of Stanhowe; Suſan, to Thomas Goodrick, gent. of North Creak; and Frances, to Edmund Briggs, of Bradfield.

Thomas Bozun, eſq. ſon and heir of Hamon, ſold in 1657 to Catherine Calthorpe, widow, and ſecond wife of James Calthorpe, eſq. of Eaſt Barſham, this manor: ſhe was daughter and coheireſs of ſir Edward Lewkenor, of Denham, in Suffolk, and ſettled it on her ſecond ſon, James Calthorpe, eſq. of the Middle-Temple, who was lord in 1708, and died unmarried, January 19, 1716, and was buried at Eaſt Barſham.

From the Calthorpes it came by the two daughters and coheireſſes of ſir Chriſtopher Calthorpe to ſir Thomas le Strange, bart. and on his death to his brother, ſir Henry, the late lord, who died September 9, 1760. It is now poſſeſſed by Mary lady le Strange, his widow, who is a daughter of the late Roger North, eſq. of Rougham, and now reſides at Greſſenhall.

The earl of Richmond's manor of Horningtoft extended into this. Thomas Burt, ſon and heir of ſir Hamon

Hamon Burt, lord of Horningtoft, and of the fourth part of Whiſſonſet, granted to James de Hulmo, of this town, lands, with a free foldage in the fields, free bull and free boar, paying 2d. per ann.

John Lynge, *alias* Bradele, in the 35th of Henry VI. had lands, rents, and ſervices, with the liberty of a moiety of a fold-courſe, in this town, Horningtoft, and Godwick. This ſoon after came to the Bozuns, united to the capital lordſhip.

The tenths of the town were 3l. 2s.—Deducted 6s.

The temporalities of Weſtacre priory in 1428 were 10s. 4d. ob.—Caſtle Acre 2s.—Fakenham 11s. —and Walſingham 12d.

The church is a ſingle pile, with a chancel covered with lead, and a ſquare tower, with four bells.

On the pavement of the chancel lie ſeveral graveſtones of grey marble, with the effigies of the Bozuns in armor, on braſs plates; on one,

Ricardus Bozoun quonda' fueram vocitatus,
Quod fueram non ſum quia pulvere ſu' ſubhumatus,
M. C. tetras ac L. in feſti veſp'e ſtelle
Spiritus expirat, Deus O mea crimina pelle.

On another,—*Orate p. a'i'a. Johis Bozon, armigi. qui obijt* viii *die Februarij, anno Dni.* MCCCCLXXXIX, *cuj; a'i'e. &c.*

On a third,—*Orate p. a'i'a. Willi. Bozon, armigi. qui obijt* xiii *die Februarij, anno Dni.* MCCCCLX, *cuj; a'i'e. &c.*

In the church, near the font, on a grave-ſtone,—*Orate p. a'i'a. Willi. Hopton, armigeri, filij d'ni. Willi. militis, cuj; a'i'e. &c.*

Under the clerk's ſeat, on a ſtone, with an effigy in braſs, but the arms reaved,—*Orate p. a'i'a. Thomæ Gybon, gen'oſi. qui obijt* v *die Junij, anno Dni.* MCCCCLXXXIIII, *cuj; &c.*

In a window on the north ſide of the church, there was a few years paſt the effigy of a man in a long looſe gown of blue, and from a label,—*Sc'e Matthia intercede p. me.*—Alſo the arms of de Caſtello, or Caſtell, and Billingford impaling argent, a chev'ron, ſable, in a ſouth window.

In the 4th of Henry VI. Wm. Billingford releaſed to Henry Keys, and John Wyſſingſete, all his right in ſeveral lands and tenements in this town, &c. except the manor of Oxwick, and a wood, called Sherndale, in Horningtoft.

The church is a rectory, dedicated to the Virgin Mary; the ancient value was ten marks.

Roger Bozun, who was lord in 1202, gave to the prior and convent of Caſtle Acre two parts of the tithe of his demeſne in this town, and of his woods that were grubbed up, or ſhould be; *(tam de ſartis quam ſartatis)* and the prior and convent reſigned their right in the preſentation on this reſerve, that whoever ſhould be preſented by the ſaid Roger, or his heirs, ſhould give ſecurity for the payment of one mark per ann. to them. The rector was obliged to pay 40s. per ann. penſion for the tithes of the aforeſaid demeſnes. The preſent value is 10l. 3s. 4d.

In

In 1745 the Rev. Henry Calthorpe was preſented by ſir Thomas le Strange, knt. *p. j.* to the rectory of Whiſſonſet, or Whiſſingſet.

WORTHING, or WORTHINGS, is a hamlet belonging to the pariſh and lordſhip of Swanton, ſeated in an *ing*, or low ground, between and near to the place where two rivers unite; ſuch a ſcite is called by the Germans, Werd, or Werdt, as Keiſerwerd, and Donawert, in Germany, and there is an old proverb in the neighbourhood,—"Worſe and worſe, as Worthing-mill."

Henry de Rhye gave to the monks of Caſtle Acre the mill of Worthing, with Thurſtane the miller, his mother, and brothers, with all his ſubſtance. Several other grants were made to that monaſtery by perſons in this town.

Lands here were granted, July 1, in the 7th of Edward VI. to Thomas Greſſenham, late in the tenure of Chriſtopher Preſton.

Thomas Warner held four meſſuages, with the appurtenances, of queen Elizabeth, *in capite;* and William Warner, his ſon and heir, held in the 15th of Elizabeth ſeventeen acres, late parcel of the poſſeſſions of Caſtle Acre priory, and three acres, called le Holbred land.

The manor and principal part of Worthing, and Swanton, were a few years ago purchaſed of Mrs. Phill, of London, by John Lombe, eſq. of Great Melton, who is now lord and owner.

The chapel, or church, is covered with lead, and the chancel with thatch, the ſteeple, which was round,

round, is in ruins, and one bell ſtands in the church thus inſcribed:—*In eternis annis reſona campana Johannis.*

The Rev. Joſhua Larwood is now rector of Swanton-Morley, with the chapel of Worthing.

THE

HISTORY

OF

NORFOLK.



Hundred and Half of Mitford,

IS bounded on the north by Launditch and Eynsford; by Forehoe on the eaſt; by Wayland on the ſouth; and by South Greenhoe on the weſt. It is in extent, from north to ſouth, about eight miles, and nine from eaſt to weſt. This hundred lies directly in the centre of the county of Norfolk, and is, generally ſpeaking, rich and well cultivated.—The turnpike road which paſſes through this hundred, by Eaſt Dereham, is a matter of great convenience to the inhabitants; but we cannot ſay much in favour of the country roads, eſpecially thoſe in the ſouth part of the hundred. The road from Dereham to Shipdham, and Watton, is alſo of much public benefit.

There is no river of any conſequence in this hundred. but it abounds in many parts with woods, and extenſive commons.

At the ſurvey it was wrote Mittefort,* and belonged to the monaſtery of St. Etheldreda, or St. Audrey, at Ely; the abbot and convent were lords of it in the reign of the Confeſſor, and it was valued at 60s. per annum.

It was granted with the manor of Eaſt Dereham, to that monaſtery, by Ethelwold biſhop of Wincheſter, in the reign of the Saxon king Edgar.

Edgar granted to it very great privileges, which were confirmed and enlarged by king Edward, and other kings, and on the erection of the biſhopric of Ely, in 1109, was ſettled on that ſee, as part of its revenues.

In the reign of Richard I. theſe royalties belonged to it: ſoc, ſac, thol, theam, infangtheof, and outfangtheof, frithwite, ferdwite, grithbrith, and all forfeitures, which he confirmed, as his father, Henry II. had.

The biſhop's men were free from toll, paſſage, gelt, and Dane-gelt, and acquitted from all fines for murder in the ſaid hundred, as due to the biſhop, except they who held of a different fee, and except treaſure-trove. He had the return of all writs in his own fee, and that of other perſons, writs of replevin, all fines and amercements, felons goods, and fugitives.

In

* Mitford, or Mid-ford, may have its name in alluſion to ſome *ford* in the centre or *middle* of the county.---Mitford is the name of a family, and of a town, in Northumberland.

In the 34th of Henry III. he had his own coroner, and the hundred was valued at 100s. per ann. in the 35th he had free-warren, and in the 41ſt of that king his own judge for this liberty, and the biſhop of Ely had a priſon at Eaſt Dereham.

In the 6th of Edward I. he had a gallows, tumbrel, a free court, and cognizance of all ſecular crimes, held pleadings in the hundred as well as the ſheriff in the county, and had aſſize of bread and beer. About this time it was valued at ten marks per ann.

In the 11th of Henry VI. the biſhop's bailiff accounted for ſheriff's aid 18s. 2d. and for the leets of ſeveral towns, and for Streteman's-Dike; this was ſo called from the north ſtreet of Eaſt Dereham, which lies in the hundred of Launditch, of which John le Strange, of Litcham, was lord in 1277; and the men inhabiting in this ſtreet met once every year to renew their pledges at this dike, in the preſence of the bailiffs of both theſe hundreds, and paid a fine (*ne occaſionentur*) not to be charged with any occaſional payments.

In the 37th of Henry VIII. Thomas Goodrye, biſhop of Ely, granted Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, the office of bailiff of all and ſingular the lordſhips and lands in Norfolk, belonging to him, for his life.

The hundred remained in the ſee of Ely till granted to the crown, by act of parliament, in the 1ſt of Elizabeth: in the beginning of her reign it lett for 4l. 5s. 3d. per ann. beſides caſualties; and in the 16th of James I. it was granted to ſir John Hobart, lord chief juſtice of the Common-Pleas, for three lives.

In 1689 the hundred court was kept at Brock, or Brook-pit, and the ſum of 13d. was then paid at the turn held there for lands at Begale-Green, in Mattiſhall.

The towns in this hundred are as follow, to which we add the number of votes polled by freeholders reſident in each, at the great conteſted election for knights of the ſhire, in 1768.

	W.	de G.	A.	C.
Cranworth -	6	0	7	1
Dereham, Eaſt -	29	45	47	21
Garveſton - -	2	2	0	2
Hardingham -	10	9	0	0
Hockering - -	2	2	10	10
Letton - -	4	0	4	0
Mattiſhall -	17	14	4	3
Mattiſhall-Bergh -	2	2	3	3
Reymerſton -	5	5	0	0
Shipdham -	17	14	8	1
South Bergh -	8	4	4	0
Thuxton - -	0	0	0	0
Tuddenham, Eaſt and North	6	15	2	11
Weſtfield -	1	1	1	1
Whinbergh -	2	3	0	1
Wood-Riſing -	1	1	0	0
Yaxham - -	6	5	2	0
Total	118	122	92	54

The Seats and principal Houſes in this Hundred are:

Eaſt Dereham,	Samuel Raſh, eſq.
Hardingham,	Edward Paulet Heyhoe, eſq.
Ditto,	Thomas Gregſon Payne, eſq.
Letton,	Thornhagh Gurdon, eſq.
Mattiſhall,	Mr. Thomas Hewitt.
Reymerſton,	Thomas Grigſon, eſq.
Shipdham,	George Lucas Strudwick, eſq.
Ditto,	Rev. Coleby Bullock.
Quebec Caſtle,	Sir John Odingſeles Leeke, bart.
Tuddenham, Eaſt,	Rev. Thomas Du Queſne.
Wood-Riſing,	John Weyland, eſq.

This hundred pays to the general county-rate 20l. 9s. 6d. to a ſix hundred pounds levy.

A ſpacious, airy, and convenient HOUSE OF INDUSTRY has lately been erected for the reception and benefit of the poor of the hundreds of Mitford and Launditch, which very laudable work has been ſupported and attended to by many worthy gentlemen, zealous for the welfare and happineſs of their fellow creatures, who are, through age or infirmities, neceſſitated to become burthenſome to the pariſhes they belong to. Here, inſtead of what a ſcanty pittance will bring them from market, the poor of all ages, and of both ſexes, are decently cloathed, comfortably fed, and lodged in clean apartments, their health, morals, and education, properly attended to, and it is their own fault if they do not enjoy the bleſſings of plenty and contentment: but even this, like all other human inſtitutions, met with much popular oppoſition in the beginning: time has, and time will, we hope, bury thoſe prejudices in conviction, and reconcile the minds of all men to what is the real intereſt

reſt of the poor—a frugal ſupport through life, and a total ſuppreſſion of licentious liberty.

CRANWORTH, and SWATHING. This lordſhip was farmed, or taken care of for the king at the ſurvey, (who was then lord of it) by Godric, Ulf, who was lord of it in the time of Edward the Confeſſor, being deprived of it, valued at 100s. but at the ſurvey at 10l. per ann. and 10s. was paid for an income, or fine. It was one leuca long, and half a one broad, and paid 15d. gelt. Ulf was the third ſon of king Harold.

At the time of the Conqueror's ſurvey, adjoining to Cranworth, was a town called Suatinga, or Swathing, a town many centuries paſſed deſtroyed and depopulated, and the lands belonging to it now included in the townſhips of Cranworth, and Letton; that it was a conſiderable village appears from the account of it in Doomſday-book, when it belonged to the king, and was farmed of him, or taken care of by Godric.

Hacon, grandſon of earl Godwin, and ſon of Swain, brother to king Harold, was deprived of it; valued in Hacon's time at 100s. at the ſurvey at 6l. 13s. 4d. was ſeven furlongs long, ſix broad, whoever was lord of it, and paid 12d. gelt.

Cranworth is wrote Cranaworda in Doomſday-book.

SWATHING'S and BOTETOURT'S MANOR. The townſhip, or lands, of Swathing being thus joined to that of Cranworth, became two diſtinct manors, or two moieties of the townſhip of Cranworth, and as ſuch we ſhall here treat of them in the order of time as we find them.

Swathiug

Swathing was ſo conſiderable a lordſhip, that Runhall, in the hundred of Forehoe, was a beruite to it, and valued with it; it alſo extended into Hardingham.

The ancient family of de Gurney were lords of this town, Cranworth, and Letton, in the 14th of king John.

Edmund de Swathing, as lord, preſented to the church of Cranworth in the reign of Edward I. and John de Gurney in the 9th of Edward II. impleaded William de Swathing for chacing his hares without his licence, in his free-warren of Swathing.

In the 15th of Edward I. Guy de Botetourt claimed free-warren in his demeſne lands here, of this lordſhip; that family had been enfeoffed by the Gurneys.

The families of Kerebrook, Swinburn, Walcote, and Edmonds, ſeem to have had an intereſt in this town.

John Edmonds died in 1563, poſſeſſed of the manor of Botetourt, in Cranworth, held of lord Bardolph, of his manor of Cantele, and of the manor of Thompſon; he was buried in St. Mary's church, Cranworth.

Henry Sharington, eſq. who was ſteward to the biſhop of Ely for his hundred of Mitford, was lord of Swathing's in the 12th of Henry VI. and preſented to this church in 1435, and 1439; and his grandſon, Thomas Sharington, eſq. preſented in 1522. He conveyed it to ſir Richard Southwell, who in the year 1546 preſented to this church, as lord of Swathing's manor; and in the 31ſt of Henry VIII. ſir Chriſtopher

pher Jenney, judge of the King's Bench, and ſir John Jenney, knt. conveyed to ſir Richard Southwell, by fine, the lordſhip of Botetourt.

From the Southwells the lordſhip came to the Cranes; William Crane, eſq. preſented in 1647, and 1663.

In 1680 Brampton Gurdon, eſq. preſented as lord, and his deſcendant, Thornhagh Gurdon, eſq. in 1672.

Thomas Barrow was living here in the 24th of Elizabeth, and had lands here, and at Weſthorpe, in Suffolk, which ſeem to come to them from the Eſmonds.

Of the church of Swathing we find no memorial, being dilapidated many centuries paſt; that of Cranworth was a rectory, valued at ten marks in the reign of Edward I. Edmund de Swathing was patron, and the rector had then a manſe and fifteen acres of land. The preſent value is 5l. 18s. 6d.

In the 38th of Henry VIII. June 26, this rectory and that of Letton were conſolidated; and in 1603 the rector returned the number of communicants here, and in Letton, to be 120.

In the church is a monument to ſir William Cooke, bart. of Broom-Hall, who died in 1708, aged 78.

On a grave-ſtone,—*John Williams, gent. ſome time ſervant to the right high and mighty prince, John duke of Suffolk, which John Williams died July* 2, 1501.

In the church of Cranworth, on the windows, were the arms of Sharington, Swathing, lord Scales, Mortimer

timer, of Attleburgh, lord Morley, Clifton, and Cailly. Whinbergh, Blundevile, Bottetourt, lord Bardolph, Brampton, Sharington impaling Pirton of Eſſex.

In the 1ſt of Henry VIII. Thomas Sharington made a new window in the north aile at the eaſt end, alſo a new porch.

On a ſtone, in the north aile, were the arms of Swathing, it being likely their burial place. Gurdon quarters Sexton, Mounteney, Brampton, Clifton, Barton, Burgate, &c.

Here was the guild of St. John Baptiſt, and St. Mary; to her the church was dedicated.

The abbot of Wendling's temporalities were 22s. 1d. ob.

The town is ſeated where two ſtreams, or rivulets, unite, as appears from the adjunct word, Worth; *Cran*, or *Curne*, ſignifies the turn of a river, and ſometimes is the name of a river, as Cranbourne, in Dorſetſhire, and Cranbrook, in Eſſex.

In 1762 the Rev. Robert Partridge was preſented to the united rectory of Cranworth, with Letton, by Thornhagh Gurdon, eſq. of Letton.

EAST DEREHAM. This market town is ſituated at the north-weſt point of the hundred of Mitford, and nearly in the centre of the county of Norfolk. It is ſometimes ſpelled Dearham, Deerham, and anciently Derham.

Eaſt Dereham is one of the handſomeſt towns in the county, moſt delightfully ſituated on the eaſt ſide of a rivulet, over which there is a bridge. It is a poſt town, through which the mail from London and Thetford, to Fakenham, Wells, and Holt, paſſes, and the coach between Norwich and Lynn-Regis. It has a weekly market on Friday, and fairs Feb. 3, and Sept. 28. The annual meeting of the weſtern battalion of Norfolk militia uſed to be here to exerciſe for twenty-eight days, and the comedians from the theatre-royal in Norwich perform a few weeks here every other year. Here is alſo a genteel aſſembly-room, and two principal inns, the George and King's Arms. Several hamlets lie in the environs of the town, in ſome of which are neat villas of the gentry, particularly a houſe belonging to Samuel Raſh, eſq. but occupied by Edward Pratt, eſq. called St. James's, with reſpect to its vicinity to a cottage called White-hall.—Quebec-Caſtle, lately in the poſſeſſion of ſir John Odingſeles Leeke, bart. is a handſome, yet humble imitation of ſomething *grand*. Its ſituation on the higheſt ground in this country is incomparably well choſen, commanding a very extenſive and beautiful proſpect each way. The houſe itſelf is ſlight, but neat, and the riſing plantation will contribute much to the landſcape. We have been told, that Mr. Raſh, who built this *fanciful* houſe, gave it its name in compliment to lord Townſhend, who was ſecond in command at the ſiege of Quebec.

Here were, till lately, no leſs than five juſtices of the peace in this pariſh, a circumſtance probably not to be found in any town of the ſame ſize and conſequence in the kingdom. John Fenn, eſq. has a handſome houſe here, as alſo James Smyth of Braddenham, William Girling, eſq. of Twyford-lodge, Mr.

Mr. Donne, Mr. Charles Marſton, Mr. Thomas Smyth, &c.

Eaſt Dereham is ſixteen miles from Norwich, thirty-eight from Yarmouth, twelve from Swaffham, twenty-ſix from Lynn-Regis, eighteen from Holt, twelve from Fakenham, twenty-two from Wells, eight from Litcham, ten from Watton, twenty-two from Thetford, eight from Hingham, and 102 from London. At the north end of the market-place ſtands a pillar, on which are marked the diſtances to moſt of the principal towns and ſeats in Norfolk, but we do not vouch for their accuracy: we, however, approve much of the intention of public intelligence of this kind.

It was burnt on the 1ſt of July, in the 23d of Elizabeth, as we learn from a book then publiſhed, and intitled,—"An account of the lamentable burning of Eaſt Dereham, in the county of Norfolk, July 1, 1581," in verſe, printed in black letter, in 1582, at London.

On the 3d of July, in the 21ſt of Charles II. it was again almoſt deſtroyed by fire, five perſons were then burned, many horſes and other cattle, and 170 houſes; the loſs by which was eſtimated at 11,020l. and by goods and merchandiſe at 8,423l. the whole amounting to 19,443l.

The principal manor in this pariſh is that of EAST DEREHAM of the QUEEN. This manor was granted to the monaſtery of Ely by Ethelwold biſhop of Wincheſter, in the reign of the Saxon king Edgar, anno 963.

In Doomſday-book it is ſaid to have belonged to the church, or monaſtery of Ely, and to conſiſt of five carucates of land, and there were always three mills, &c. It was valued then at 10l. now at 13l. was one leuca long, half a leuca broad, and paid 15d. in gelt, or tribute.

This lordſhip continued a part of the poſſeſſions of the monaſtery of Ely till the foundation of the biſhop's ſee there, in 1109, (in the 9th of Henry I.) when it was aſſigned to the biſhop, and made a part of his barony.

From a M. S. book, intitled, "A Book of the "Survey of the Manors belonging to the biſhopric "of Ely, taken in the time of Hugh de Balſham, "biſhop of Ely, and in the 21ſt year of his conſe-"cration," viz. in 1277, is extracted the following account of it:

"This lordſhip is in the biſhop of Ely's hundred of Mitford, except the north ſtreet* of the town, and that is in the hundred of Launditch, (which belongs to John L'Strange, of Litcham) in which hundred the men inhabiting in the ſaid ſtreet meet once a year to renew their pledges, at Strutteman's-dyke, in the preſence of the bailiffs of both theſe hundreds, and pay a fine of 2s. *ne occaſionentur*, (that they may not be diſturbed, ſued, or put to trouble) whereof the biſhop's bailiff is to have 1s. 8d. and the bailiff of Launditch 4d. or to eat with the other bailiff at the biſhop's charge."

"The

* Now called Dillington; it lies on the other ſide of Stunton-heath, on which heath the hundreds divide.

" The advowſon of the church of Dereham, with the chapel of Hoe, belongs to the biſhop.—The church of Dereham is in the archdeaconry of Norfolk, and deanry of Hingham.—The chapel of Hoe is in the archdeaconry of Norwich, and deanry of Briſley."

The demeſne lands are then deſcribed, the lands of the free and copyhold tenants, the rents, cuſtoms, ſervices, heriots, &c. &c. the ſeveral commons belonging to the manor are abutted, and thus mentioned:

" On Eſtlingker common † the towns of Yaxham, Mattiſhall, and Tuddenham, are to intercommon with the biſhop's tenants, but not to cut wood, or turf, without the biſhop's leave; the biſhop and his tenants are likewiſe to intercommon on the other ſide of the bank with them, and in Tuddenham here."

" On Bruneſnor common the town of Dereham, with the homage of William de Bellomonte, of Little Dereham, Gilbert de Franſham, of Scarning, and William de Stutevile, of Greſſenhall, are to intercommon with the biſhop as before, and the biſhop and the town of Dereham with them, on Scarning common."

" On Bukemede, the town of Dereham, the homage of William de Stutevile, in Greſſenhall, of Thomas de Hereford, and Gilbert de Franſham, and the homage of William de Bellomonte, in Little Dereham, intercommon with the biſhop, who with his tenants are to intercommon on the other ſide of the bank with them."

† Now Badley-moor.

" On Galewetremor the whole town of Dereham intercommon with the biſhop."

" On Northalegreen the town of Derham, and thirteen of the homage of William de Stutevile, and Thomas de Hereford, living near that common, intercommon with the biſhop."

" On Eſtlingegreen the towns of Dereham, Yaxham, Mattiſhall, and Tuddenham, intercommon with the biſhop."

" On Morgate-green the town of Dereham, the homage of William de Bellomonte, of Little Dereham, of William de Stutevile, and Gilbert de Franſham, in Scarning, intercommon with the biſhop, and the biſhop and town of Dereham likewiſe intercommon with them in Berkeſlehell."

" On Suthwodegreen the towns of Dereham, Yaxham, Mattiſhall, and Tuddenham, intercommon with the biſhop."

" There is a common likewiſe in Hoe, called Aphelho, and Lyn Croſt, in which the biſhop's tenants, the tenants of William de Stutevile, and Thomas de Hereford, intercommon with the biſhop."

" The biſhop makes annually about 10l. of all the abovementioned commons."

" The tenants are to put their cattle on the above commons and lands, (except in thoſe lands which are lately cleared of wood) from the time that harveſt is finiſhed to Lady-day, but the lord is firſt to put his cattle on, and in recompence for this right of common, the biſhop's tenants are to plow his lands, called

called Graſerthe. The biſhop has free-warren over the whole manor; he has likewiſe the fiſheries of Eaſt-mill, Kirk-mill, and formerly he had that at Belhous-mill, but was late hindered there by the lady of Belhous manor, in Tuddenham —There are two water-mills, one wind-mill, and the biſhop might erect another if he pleaſed.—The market is worth ten marks per ann.—The ſtock to be kept is ten cows, a free bull, thirty hogs, a free boar, and 200 ſheep."

" The lady Alice Mareſchall held three fees by knight's ſervice of this manor —A fine, called childwite, is to be paid for every baſtard born, and another, called gerſuma, upon the marriage of a ſon, or daughter.—A heriot is due of a death, or 20s.—The widow is entitled to half the huſband's lands for life."

" Here is a wood belonging to the biſhop, called Toft-wode, containing about 70 acres, and worth by the year 19s."

In the rolls of the King's Bench it appears that the biſhop had a fair, and that the town was ſixteen leucas diſtant from Norwich, by which it is plain that a leuca was then accounted only *one* mile, Dereham being exactly ſixteen meaſured miles from Norwich.

The biſhop had likewiſe a priſon here for his hundred of Mitford, and return of writs* This gaol was near the market-houſe in the reign of Henry VI. ſome part of the wall is now ſtanding, and is a part of a houſe near the aſſembly-room.

* This was leaſed in queen Elizabeth's reign, and the rent was 4l. 11s. 3d.

In the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary, Edmund Pierpoint, the biſhop's receiver, accounted for 52l. 14s. 9d. halfpenny profits of this manor for one year.

In the 1ſt of Elizabeth this manor, &c. &c. were by act of parliament granted to the crown; and in that year the rent of aſſize was 23l. 19s. of cuſtomary villains 14l. 5s. rent, called Hedermuth, 3s. 2d. moveable rent 1l. 1s. 8d. rent of the demeſnes 13l. 13s. 2d. herbage 5s. 8d. a mill 6l. market and ſtalls 3l. 3s. 8d. one acre's rent 1s. 6d. profit of the fair 3s. 8d. the whole amounting to 62l. 19s. 6d.

In the 18th of James I. Charles prince of Wales, &c. &c. held his firſt court here.

In the 20th of James I. Miles Hobart, and Richard Grimes, eſq. had a grant of the ſtewardſhip of this manor from Charles prince of Wales, during pleaſure, and 54s. annual fee.

In the 14th of Charles I. Henrietta Maria, queen of England, held the manor, of whom it was farmed.

In the 4th of James II. Catherine, queen dowager, had the manor, and ſir Charles Harbord, ſurveyor general, farmed it of her, and bought the reverſion for his two ſons, Philip Harbord, eſq. and colonel John Harbord.

It belonged afterwards to ——— Shaw, eſq. and came from him to the Byron family by marriage. The preſent lord is ſir Charles Gould, bart. a colonel in the army, and judge advocate.

The

The biſhop had a park belonging to this manor, which was granted to Meſſrs. Crompton, Wright, and Meyrick, and their heirs, by patent, dated in the 24th of Elizabeth.—John Duke, M. D. of Colcheſter, was ſeiſed of a moiety of it, (which he purchaſed of Mr. Fountain) and by his will gave it to Ann, his wife, who ſettled it in 1636 on Robert Paynell, of Norwich, gent. and Judith, his wife, one of the daughters and coheireſſes of the ſaid John, and Ann Duke, the ſaid Paynell paying 800l. to Thomas Cook, and Elizabeth, his wife.

Dr. Fountain, dean of York, now owns one part of it, and ——— Evans, eſq. grandſon of Thomas Evans, eſq. late recorder of Bury, owns the other*.

In 1600 Leonard Mapes, of Norwich, gent. was lord. In 1614 Leonard Mapes, eſq. his ſon; and in 1625 Thomas Aſty, gent. In 1703 Aſty George, of Eaſt Dereham, gent. was lord. In 1724 Thomas George, of Eaſt Dereham, gent. and in 1764 Aſty George, of Norwich, ſon of Thomas George, gent. was lord. This manor was lately ſold and conveyed to Jeremiah Ives, eſq. of the Town-cloſe, near the city of Norwich, who is the preſent lord.

Colbowrn's, or Mowle's Manor. John Bainard, eſq. died poſſeſſed of this manor in the 14th of Edward IV. and deviſed it to be ſold. In the 15th of Henry VIII. Henry Parker, of Moughton, was lord of it. In the 31ſt of Elizabeth there was a *præcipe* to William Stanhawe, gent. Robert Palmer, &c. to render to Thomas Heryng, gent. the manor of Colbowrn's, Mowle's, or Maſſingham's, lying in Eaſt Dereham, Hoe, North Tuddenham, and Yaxham.

The

* Parkin.

The lands belonging to this manor are ſaid to be moſt of them manumiſed. The preſent lord is Jeremiah Ives, eſq.

This at the ſurvey was probably a part of Ralph de Beaufoe's lordſhip, called CREKE'S, or OLDHALL'S MANOR. Ralph de Beaufoe had a lordſhip here, which Harold held as a lay-fee of Stigand archbiſhop of Canterbury. In king Edward the Confeſſor's reign it was granted to Ralph, under whom Odar held it: in the Confeſſor's time it was valued at 20s. at the conqueſt at 40s. The whole was one leuca and five furlongs long, half a leuca and three furlongs broad, and paid 10d. gelt. The whole ſoc was in the king's manor of Mileham.

This lordſhip ſtands accounted for under the hundred of Launditch, as belonging to Mileham manor, and lying in the pariſh of Dereham; it alſo extended into Scarning, and was called Drayton-hall, in Scarning, from its ancient lords, the Draytons.

In the 14th of Henry III. Agnes, one of the daughters and coheireſſes of William de Drayton, who married William Lenveyſe, had it aſſigned her on a diviſion of his inheritance.

After this William de Bellomonte was lord of it, in the 5th of Edward I.

In the 11th of Edward III. Nicholas Oldhall poſſeſſed it. From this Nicholas deſcended ſir William Oldhall, who on the 20th of July, in the 10th of Henry VI. had the king's protection, being then abroad in France, in the retinue of Thomas duke of Exeter. He was afterwards ſpeaker of the Houſe of Commons, and attainted of treaſon, for being concerned

cerned in Jack Cade's rebellion in Kent, and a writ of outlawry was confirmed againſt him by parliament about the 33d of Henry VI. By his daughter and heireſs, Mary, his manors came to Walter Gorges, eſq. who was found to die ſeiſed of the manor of Oldhall and Creke's in the 6th of Edward IV. From this family it came to ſir William Capel, who died lord in the 7th of Henry VIII. and his deſcendant, the right honorable William Anne Holles Capel, earl of Eſſex, is the preſent lord.

Here is another ſmall manor, called the RECTORY MANOR; of this the rector is lord.

The church of Eaſt Dereham is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and has a chapel belonging to it at Hoe; it was valued with that at one hundred and ten marks, and the vicarage at fourteen marks. The rectory is a ſinecure, valued in the king's books at 41l. 3s. 1d. farthing, and has the patronage of the vicarage, which is valued at 17l. 3s. 4d. The preſent rector is the Rev. Francis Wollaſton, L. L. D. and F. R. S. of Charterhouſe-ſquare, in London, and Chiſſelhurſt, in Kent.

It appears by a receipt without any date, of Hugo Monaldi, and others, citizens of Florence, that they received of the prior of Wymondham 120 marks ſterling, (the profits of this church) wherein the ſaid prior was bound to the biſhop of Oſtia, in Italy, and rector of this pariſh.

In 1240 Robert Paſſelaw, chaplain to Henry III. was rector of Eaſt Dereham; he was chancellor of the exchequer, archdeacon of Lewes, and elected by the canons biſhop of Chicheſter, in the 30th of that reign, but was ſet aſide, and died rector.

In

In the liſt of inſtitutions to this pariſh we find amongſt its rectors many eminent men.

In 1534 the famous, or rather infamous, Edmund Bonner, L. L. D. was collated to this rectory by the biſhop of Ely. In 1538 he was inſtalled biſhop of Hertford, and in 1540 biſhop of London. In 1549 he was deprived and committed to priſon by Edward VI. and reſtored again by Mary in 1553, and employed by that bloody queen in *perſecuting* the Proteſtants in 1555; ſlighted by queen Elizabeth, and deſpiſed by all men in 1558: he died in the Marſhalſea, Sept. 5, 1569. He was the natural ſon of a prieſt, named Savage, but his mother, Elizabeth Frodſham, marrying Edmund Bonner, of Henley, in Worceſterſhire, he was called by his name.

On the 28th of September, 1579 the patronage of this rectory, and that of Terrington, was granted for a time to William Deighton, of Stanfield, in Lincolnſhire, gent.

The rectories of Eaſt Dereham, and Terrington, were leaſed (being ſinecures) by James I. on March 8, 1612, to ſir William Pooley, his executors, &c. with the advowſons, for ninety years.

John Winter, rector here in 1664, was author of a book, intitled, *Specilegium*, &c. printed in quarto, for William Oliver, at Norwich, 1664.

The Rev. James Verdon, A. M. was rector ſixty-three years, and died in 1741, aged 89.

In 1761 the Rev. Francis Wollaſton, L. L. D. was preſented to this rectory by Francis Wollaſton, eſq. *p. h. v.*

In



Mateus Armstrong del. H.Roe sculp.

To Sir John Odingsells Lecke Bt.

In 1479 John Gooſe, the vicar, gave a houſe in Baxter-row*, and three incloſures, to the town; and his ſucceſſor, Roger Balkewell, gave all his lands, both free and copyhold, to the ſucceeding vicars.

In 1603 there were ſix hundred and ſixty communicants.

In 1769 the Rev. John Curry was preſented to the vicarage of Eaſt Dereham, conſolidated with Hoe chapel in 1533, by the Rev. Dr. Wollaſton, rector and patron, by leaſe.

The Rev. George Thomas, brother to the right Rev. Dr. Thomas, biſhop of Rocheſter, is the preſent vicar, and reſides at the vicarage-houſe here.

This church is a large pile, built in the form of a cathedral, or collegiate church; it has a nave, north and ſouth ailes, two tranſepts, or croſs ailes, and a chancel, all leaded. There is a tower between the body of the church and the chancel, which is of antique building, as in many cathedrals; in the tranſepts were formerly the chapels of the Holy Croſs, St. Mary, St. Withburga, &c. The ſouth, or Holy Croſs chapel, was repaired by the family of the Botons, who lived in the time of Henry VII. The treaſury, or ammunition chamber, was over this chapel, for the keeping of which a ſalary was annually paid till the reign of Henry VIII.

The ſouth porch was built by Roger and Margaret Boton, whoſe names are now to be ſeen in the ſtone-work.

The

* So called from a family of that name, who owned moſt of it in the time of Henry VI.

The font is very handſome; it is of ſtone, the form octangular: there are the repreſentation of our Saviour's crucifixion, and the ſeven ſacraments of the Romiſh church, carved upon it, below which are eight of the Apoſtles at full length, and at the eight corners beneath them are the four Evangeliſts, and the ſymbol of each, namely, an angel, lion, bull, and eagle.

The aſcent up to it is by a double octagon; the upper octagon is curiouſly worked in the Gothic taſte; it was erected in 1468.

The following extract from an old church account of the expence of erecting it is very curious:

"COSTS of the new FUNTE."

	li.	*s.*	*d.*
" *Imprimis.* Payd to the maſon quan he toke the ſeyd funte in arneſt -			iiij
Item. Payd for makyng of an obligaceon, in which he was bound for the ſeyd werk - - - -			iiij
Item. Payd for lying of the fre ſtone that was for the ſeyd funte, atte Lynne - - - - -			xxij
Item. Payd for cranyng of the ſeyd ſtone - - - - - -		ij	viij
Item. Payd for carying iiij lods of the ſeyd fre ſtone fro Lynne to Eſt Dereham, per i lod carying ijs. vjd. — *Suma*		x	
Item. Payd to Thomas Flatfote for carrying of iij lodes of fre ſtone be the ſeyd ſpace, takyng for a lode iijs. - - - - - *Suma*		ix	

Item.

	li.	s.	*d.*
Item. Payd for di chaldyr of lyme xxd. and cc tyle bowt atte Norwich xvjd. - - - *Suma*		iij	
Item. Payd to Robert Crane for carying of the ſeyd lyme and tyle -			xx
Item. Payd to Ric. Weſthawe for iron work to the ſeyd funte - -			xj
Item. In expens upon help quan the funte was in the reyſing - -			ij
Item. Payd to the maſon for werkmanſhip of the ſeyd funte - -	x		
Item. To his reward - - -		xx	
Item. Paid to Will. Plomer for leding of the new funte - -		ij	v
Item. Payd Will. Pylche for makyng of the ſtole to the funte, and the keveryng of the ſame - -			xx
Item. Payd for makyng of aquetance betwyx our maſon and us - -			ij
Suma	xij	xiij	ix

Of this money fifty ſhillings and two-pence was raiſed by a voluntary ſubſcription of the inhabitants; the rent of the church lands, (at that time very ſmall) the Sunday gatherings, and the legacies, or queſtword of the deceaſed, ſupplied the reſt, and were the funds from which the church was repaired and ornamented.

To this ſtone font, in the year 1678, was added a Gothic top, ornamented in the taſte of the time, and ſupported by four fluted pillars.

Before the font, facing the middle aile, ſtands a fine large braſs eagle, on a pedeſtal of the ſame, ſupported

ported by three ſmall lions; it is gilt, and was formerly uſed as a litany deſk.

In the middle aile hangs a braſs branch, conſiſting of a double circle of candleſticks, twelve in each circle; it was purchaſed in 1738, and coſt 25l.

The church is very regularly and handſomely ſeated, the fronts of the ſeats towards the middle aile are of pannelled wainſcot; there is an exceeding good veſtry, with proper caſes for town writings, &c.

In the beginning of the ſixteenth century, (1501) and in the latter part of the reign of Henry VII. the tower in the middle of the church was thought not ſtrong enough for the bells; part of that and the bells were then taken away, and the large tower (then called the new clocker) in the church-yard, on the ſouth ſide, and about twenty yards from the chancel, was begun; it was ſeveral years in building, and benefactions towards carrying it on were given from 1508 to 1516; in it are now a clock and eight bells; it was never compleated, but the preſent flat roof was put up and leaded in the reign of Henry VIII.

There are monuments, marble-ſtones, and other memorials to the memory of the following perſons, interred in the church and chancel.

There was formerly round the rim of an old ſtone, ſtill remaining, a braſs, with this inſcription:—*Orate pro anima Walteri, quondam vicarij hujus eccleſiæ, qui obijt* 1349.—This was in memory of Walter de Stutelee.

The

The following braſſes ſtill remain:——*Orate pro anima Magiſtris Kelyng, quondam vicarij iſtius eccleſiæ, qui obijt* xxv *die menſis Septembris, anno Domini* 1479, *cujus anime propicietur Deus.—Orate pro a'ia Etheldrede Caſtell, que ob.* 1486.

John Kylvyngton. eſq. was buried 1490.—*Orate p. ai'a Robti. Palmer, qui ob.* 1491.—*Orate p. ai'a Grace Braddenham, que ob.*

On a braſs this imperfect epitaph, in memory of - - - - - - - - Aquila.

Alta petens Aquila iſtac jam conditur dula
Qui manet precibus juſtorum gaudia lucis,
Hic rexit ternis viginti da ——— annis,
Luce ſepultus ea fuerat dran ——— te Maria,
Anno Milleno D'ni. quingentenoque trino.

Under it, on a ſhield, a chevron, and in baſe an eagle, with a label, inſcribed,

Benedictus Deus in donis ejus,
Orate p. ai'a Joh'nis Paynter, qui ob. 1526.

In the church was formerly a verſe inſcription to William Cutting, who died March 4, 1599, aged 50.

There are many other old ſtones, but as the braſſes are gone, nothing can be ſaid of them.

Henrie Perrimond, ob. 1637.—*Anne Perrimond, ob.* 1643.—*Elizabeth Ward, ob.* 1644,—*Thomas Aſty, gent. obt.* 1704.—*Thomas Margetſon, ob.* 1705.

In the chancel is a monument, with an inſcription to Ann, the firſt wife of James Verdon, M. A. daughter of William Balam, eſq. who died Feb. 13, 1684, and ſeveral of their children.

Alſo, a monument in the chancel, to James Verdon, M. A. rector and vicar here, who died in 1741, aged 89 years.

The following lines on the tomb of Lydia Pillans, late wife of Mr. Richard Pillans, merchant, of Rotterdam, are well worth inſertion:

They in both countries who knew her,
Know their loſs and mourn it:
They who knew her not, have a real loſs
In wanting an example ſo worthy imitation.

On a very handſome mural monument are the arms of Clarke impaling Verdon, with an inſcription to the Rev. Samuel Clarke, A. M. of Trinity college, Oxford, *obijt* March 11, 1761, *ætatis* 66.

A neat Gothic monument for—*Elizabeth, wife of Samuel Raſh, eſq. who died* 1768, *aged* 40.

Beſides theſe, there are grave-ſtones and monuments in memory of ſeveral perſons of this pariſh.

From the pariſh regiſter it appears, that in the year 1547 here died, during the months of March, April, and May, 106 perſons.

At the weſt end of the church-yard are the ruins of a very ancient baptiſtry, over which was formerly a ſmall chapel, dedicated to St. Withburga.

At the eaſt end of the baptiſtry there is now remaining a curious old Gothic arch, from which runs a ſpring of clear water*, formerly ſaid to have had many

* At ſome diſtance from the church-yard is another ſpring, called St. Withburga's-well.

many medicinal and healing qualities. The fabulous account is, that this ſpring took its riſe in the church-yard, from the place where St. Withburga was firſt buried. In the year 1752 it was arched over, and converted into a cold bath.

In 650 a nunnery of Benedictines was founded here by Anna* king of the Eaſt Angles, for Withburga, his youngeſt daughter, whom he made prioreſs. This houſe is reported to have been ſo very poor at its inſtitution, that by the prayers of their prioreſs the nuns are ſaid to have been miraculouſly ſupported by two does, which came conſtantly to be milked at a certain time and place; this reſource was but of ſhort continuance, for the bailiff of the town envying them this ſupply, moſt maliciouſly hunted them away with his hounds, and as a *judgment* upon him ſoon after broke his neck as he was purſuing his favourite diverſion of hunting.

Withburga died, and was buried in the church-yard; after which the Pagan Danes coming into England, the nunnery was deſtroyed, and the church made parochial: this happened about fifty-five years after her deceaſe.

About the year 789 her body, being found uncorrupted, was taken up, and tranſlated into the church, where it remained near 200 years, when, to compleat her ſtory, we are told, that Brithnod, abbot of Ely, and his monks, concerted a ſcheme for conveying her body from thence to Ely, which they effected by having men and carriages ſtationed upon the road ready to receive it from thoſe appointed to ſteal it

* Biſhop Tanner ſays, that Withburga herſelf founded the above priory.

away. Their ſcheme ſucceeded, and they brought the body to Brandon-ferry, where it was put on board a veſſel, from thence conveyed to Ely, and there enſhrined, before the men from Dereham could take any ſtep to recover it.

This is ſtiled by the *Hiſtoria Elienſis*,—"*Sanctum Sacrilegium—Fidele furtum*,—*Salutaris rapina*."—That is, a *ſanctified* ſacrilege,—a *pious* fraud,—a *ſoul-ſaving* robbery;—it was indeed a robbing of Peter to pay Paul.—Her *obijt* was kept on the 17th of March.

Here was a famous guild, or ſociety, of this Withburga, which had a ſtrong brick houſe, called the Guildhall, where their feaſts were kept, and other ceremonies performed.

This was diſſolved by Henry VIII. and in the 2d of Edward VI. was granted to Thomas Wodehouſe, of Waxham, eſq. and his heirs, for ever; he the next year granted it to William Skarlett, and William Atle, both of Eaſt Dereham, who the ſame year granted it to John Cane, clerk, of the ſame place, with all the appurtenances which it had before the diſſolution, conſiſting of five tenements, twenty acres of land, and a rent charge of 2s. 2d. out of lands, called the Headborough lands, all which were for the maintenance of the fraternity belonging to the guild, and originally given to pray for the ſouls of certain perſons deceaſed, and for the ſouls of the faithful in general. This houſe now belongs to James Smyth, eſq. of Bradenham, in South Greenhoe.

In 1615 is an entry in the town accounts of a payment of 30s. to Mr. Halman, for charges in confirming the aſſurance of the old ſhire-houſe to the town.

Over

Over the eaſtern entrance of the church-yard was formerly a ſchool-houſe belonging to the pariſh, which was taken down in 1662.

The rectory-houſe is dilapidated.—There are a large barn, a granary, one cloſe of meadow of about ſix acres, and another ſmall piece of meadow, at the weſt end of the church-yard, of about half an acre, belonging to the rector.

The vicar has a very good houſe, gardens, &c. and about fifty acres of glebe land.

There are upwards of fifty-three acres of meadow and arable land belonging to the church, which, moſt of them, lie in the pariſh;—the rents, amounting to 50l. per ann. and upwards, are appropriated to the repairing and ornamenting the church.

Benefactions to the poor, amounting to between 40 and 50l. a year, are diſtributed in money and wearing apparel to the poor inhabitants (who do not take collection) every Chriſtmas.

There are likewiſe upwards of twenty acres of land, called Headborough land, lying chiefly in this pariſh, the rent of which is to keep the ſtreets, bridges, &c. &c. in proper condition.

Mr. Aaron Williamſon in 1710 gave a dwelling-houſe, and a ſmall piece of land, called Roomes, the rent of which is to be applied in putting out poor orphans apprentices to trades.

GARVESTON, GARWESTON, or GORNAVTON, in Doomſday-book occurs by the name of Gerolfeſtuna, and part of it was a beruite to the manor of Whin-

bergh, held by Hermerus de Ferrariis, of which Turchetel, a free-man, lord in king Edward's reign, had been deprived: this part was valued together with Whinbergh, and meaſured with it, and a church endowed with ſeven acres.

Another part of this town was alſo held by Hermerus, of which nineteen free-men had alſo been deprived, valued in king Edward's time at 20s. at the ſurvey at 55s. and 4d.

The hundred teſtifies that Hermerus's predeceſſor had no cuſtomary dues from theſe free-men, but only their protection: on this there was a challenge to try it by combat, which one of the men, or tenants, of Hermerus accepted of, to *prove* that the predeceſſor of Hermerus had all the cuſtomary dues in the reign of king Edward except the ſoc that belonged the church of Ely, who had the hundred court, &c. This part of Garveſton was five furlongs long, and four broad, and paid 13d. gelt.

The town takes its name from the river Gar, which ariſes here. Gar, or Yare, is a Britiſh name, and frequently met with: thus Garboldiſham, and Gerboiſthorpe, in Norfolk; Garford, and Garſton, in Bedfordſhire; Garforth, in Yorkſhire, &c. and alſo this river gives name to Yarmouth, or Gernemutha, where it empties itſelf into the Britiſh ocean.

Hermerus's deſcendant aſſumed the name of de Wormegay, and by the heireſs of de Wormegay it came to Reginald de Warren, ſecond ſon of William earl Warren, and from that family to the Bardolphs, barons of Wormegay.

Robert

Robert de Gerneſton held it of lord Bardolph in the 35th of Henry III. and in the 38th of that king William lord Bardolph had a charter of free-warren, and a fair, being lord and patron.

This lordſhip, on the attainder of Thomas lord Bardolph, was granted to ſir Thomas Beaufort, knt. afterwards duke of Exeter, the king's brother, in the 9th of Henry IV. with the honour of Wormegay. On his dying without iſſue, ſir William Phelips, in right of his lady, had a grant of it, and it came from him to John viſcount Beaumont, and on the death of William lord Beaumont to the crown; and in 1537 Richard Southwell, eſq. preſented to the church as lord and patron.

After this it was in the Cranes, of Wood-Riſing, then in ſir Robert Clayton, and William Clayton, eſq. member of parliament for Great Marlow, in Bucks, is the preſent lord and patron.

The church is dedicated to St. Margaret, and is a rectory. The ancient value is 15 marks; the preſent value is 7l. 16s. It is a ſmall pile, and has two aiſles and a chancel; at the weſt end a tower with four bells.

A marble grave-ſtone in the chancel for—*Stephen Pool, rector, who died November* 22, 1703, *aged* 48.

The chancel was out of repair, and had not been uſed for many years, till Mrs. Barbara Lock, who kept a little alehouſe near the church, gave 200l. to the repair of the church and chancel, and 100l. to the poor of the pariſh, about 1695. The font is ancient, adorned with carving, and the church is neat, in good repair, and covered with lead.

In 1425 ſir Reginald Cobham preſented, but in 1428 Thomas Echingham, eſq. recovered the preſentation againſt ſir Reginald Cobham, lord de Sterburgh, for that time.

In 1603 the rector certified that there were 195 communicants.

In the church windows are the arms of Whinbergh, impaling azure, on a bend, gules, cottiſed, argent, 3 martlets, or.

In 1744 ſir William Clayton preſented; and in 1776 William Clayton, eſq. M. P. preſented the Rev. George Thomas to this rectory.

HARDINGHAM and FLOCKTHORPE. The town of Hardingham is not mentioned in the book of Doomſday, and was then, no doubt, a hamlet, or little village, included in the townſhip of Flockthorpe, whereas that has been depopulated for many centuries, and is now included in Hardingham.

The Conqueror had in Flockthorpe a conſiderable lordſhip, which Godric farmed, or took care of, for him, of which Hacon, ſon of Swain, the eldeſt ſon of Godwin, earl of Kent, and nephew to king Harold, was deprived, who was lord of it in king Edward's reign. The whole was then valued at 5l. at the ſurvey at 10l. and was one leuca long, and half a one broad, and paid 28d. gelt.

Beſides this lordſhip, the Conqueror had in his own hands here land, &c. valued under Hingham.

CAMOIS MANOR. Out of theſe tenures aroſe two lordſhips; one was in the family of de Camois, who was

was ſoon after the conqueſt enfeoffed of it. Andrew de Camois was a baron of the realm in the reign of Henry II.

In the 10th of Edward I. David earl of Huntingdon in England, and of Carrick in Scotland, a younger ſon of David king of Scotland, had the cuſtody of Stephen de Camois, a minor, and his lands, and owed the king 200 marks for the ſame.

Ralph de Camois held in Flockthorpe one fee, and a fourth part of one in Hardingham, of the king *in capite*, in the 12th of king John; and in the 27th of Henry III. he was ſheriff of Suſſex and Surrey.

In the 5th of Edward I. John de Camois was ſummoned to attend the king into Wales, in his expedition againſt Lewellyn prince of Wales; he paid 100l. relief for his lands, In the 15th of that king he claimed free-warren here, &c. This was that John who married Margaret, daughter and heir of John de Gateſden; in the 26th of that king ſhe came before the barons of the exchequer, and was ſtiled late wife of ſir John de Camois, and took an oath not to marry without the king's licence, holding lands *in capite*.

Dugdale ſays, ſir John de Camois, by deed, &c. granted her over to her gallant, ſir William Paynel, whom ſhe afterwards married, and recovered her dower, but by the judgment of parliament in the 30th of Edward I. was deprived of it.

Thomas de Camois conveyed it by fine, with the king's licence, to John de Holveſton, who preſented in 1342, and 1349, and died lord of this manor, it being then valued at 20l. per ann.

Sir

Sir Thomas de Holveſton died about the 38th of the ſaid king, ſeiſed of it.

In the 3d of Henry IV. ſir Thomas Barre was lord, and before this, in 1392, preſented as lord in right of his wife Elizabeth, who both preſented in 1417, and about this time there was a conteſt for the right of advowſon between the ſaid ſir Thomas and Robert Hill, of Marſham, and John Crane.

Elizabeth, wife of ſir Thomas, died in the 9th of Henry V. ſeiſed of this lordſhip and advowſon. She was, before her marriage with ſir Thomas, relict of ſir Edward Kendal, of Wreſtlingworth, in Bedfordſhire; and in the 24th of Edward III. ſir Edward, and the ſaid Elizabeth his wife, had the king's licence to travel to Rome, with four perſons, and four horſes.

Sir Thomas Camois is ſaid to have granted it to ſir John Arundel, afterwards earl of Arundel, who granted it to ſir Maurice Berkley, who preſented to the church in 1444, and in 1445 William earl of Arundel.

Thomas earl of Arundel was lord and patron in 1504, as was Henry earl of Arundel in the 38th of Henry VIII.

This Henry ſold this lordſhip about the 1ſt of Elizabeth to Thomas Greſham, eſq. of London; and in 1580 it was ſold by lady Greſham, with ten meſſuages, and a fold-courſe for 1000 ſheep, for 1500l. valued at 66l. 13s. 4d. per annum, to Anthony Thwayte, Eſq. together with the advowſon, who ſoon after conveyed it to ſir George Coppin, with all its appurtenances, ſituate, lying, and being on the north ſide of the king's highway, called Olley-Way, leading

leading from Hardingham church towards Kimberley, but excepting the right of advowſon.

The ſaid ſir John Coppin, of Kenſington, ſold it December 1, in the 6th of James I. to Thomas Bateman, Eſq. and his heirs; and Anthony Bateman, eſq. of Hardingham-hall, died ſeiſed of the manor of Flockthorpe, and left a daughter and co-heireſs Philadelphia, married to William Rocheſter, eſq. of the Middle Temple.

After this, ——— Tayler, eſq. a juſtice of the peace, was lord, and lived at Hardingham-hall, and left a daughter and heireſs, Conſtance, married to Robert Rugg, gent. by whom ſhe had three daughters and a ſon, Thomas Rugg, gent. who was lord in 1660, but dying without iſſue, the eſtate was divided among his ſiſters and co-heireſſes, and their children.

About the 6th of William and Mary, John Pagrave, eſq. John Meres, of London, gent. and Richard Parker, had a right here. About the year 1713 Ambroſe Meers, of Eaſton by Norwich, is ſaid to have three parts of the ſaid lordſhip, and George le Hunt, of New Buckenham, a fourth part.

GURNEY'S and SWATHING'S MANOR. The Gurneys were ſo early as the reign of king John enfeoffed of a moiety of this town.

Hugh de Gurney granted, by deed without date, to Robert, the Burgundian, the manor of Swathing, in Hardingham, with the manor and appurtenances in fee, for 20s. ſterling per ann. and for the gift of one horſe at the time of making this grant. It was granted at Ferretre, a town probably in Normandy, the Gurney's being lords of Gourney, a town in Normandy,

Normandy, from which they took their name, and came into England on the Norman invaſion, and this Hugh gave to the chapter of the church of St. Ildebert, of Gourney, in Normandy, the ſaid church.

In the 41ſt of Henry III. Ralph Redker conveyed lands to William de Swathing, and in the 52d of that king, William de Swathing held of John de Gurney a meſſuage, fifty-four acres of land, and three of wood, in this town and Reymerſton, with free grinding, without toll, at John's-mill, called Ravenſholm, as he and his anceſtors before had at Little-mill, whilſt Little-mill was repairing; and if they ſhould be both out of repair, that they could grind at neither, then John to pay 6s. 5d. per ann. till they could grind.

John likewiſe granted to William, and his heirs, a free bull, and ram, with a free fold-courſe, and common of paſture over all his lands for all his cattle *(tempore aperto)* in time of ſhack, as his anceſtors had.

Anthony Gurney, eſq. was lord in the 26th of Henry III. and ſoon after it was in the family of Thwayte.

Anthony Thwayte, eſq. granted in 1589 to Thomas Thwayte, eſq. of Hardingham, his father, and to Richard, Thomas, and Francis, his brothers, all his right in the manor of Swathing.

This family were deſcended from John Thwayte, eſq. who had poſſeſſions in this town in the reign of Henry VII.

Anthony Thwayte, eſq. died, in the 31ſt of Elizabeth, lord of Quiddenham, in Guiltcroſs, by the marriage

marriage of Frances, daughter and heir of Humphrey Bedingfield, eſq. and alſo lord of this manor; and leaving a daughter and ſole heireſs, Elizabeth, married to Jeffrey Cobb, eſq. of Sandringham, was buried in the chapel of St. Mary, in this church.

About 1695 Richard Thwayte is ſaid to be lord, and ſoon after it was poſſeſſed by Francis Long, eſq. of Spixworth, lord in 1718.

The church was dedicated to St. George; in the reign of Edward I. it was valued at thirty-five marks, and the rector had a manſe with ſixty acres.

The preſent value is 15l. 3s. 4d. and pays firſt fruits and tenths.

In 1603 the rector returned 162 communicants to be here; in 1758 the patronage was in Clare-hall, Cambridge.

In a north chapel, dedicated to St. Mary,—*Orate p. a'ia. Margarete Whytwell, olim uxor Joh. Whytwell, que migravit de hoc ſeculo 25 Jan.* 1497; and the arms of Whytwell, impaling Appleyard.

Orate p. a'ia. Geor. Thwayt, Gent.——and a grave-ſtone for Edward Thwayt, gent.

Pope Eugenius, by bull, confirmed the grant of the noble woman Mabilia de Bec, of lands, and the men of John, ſon of Ablac, in Flockthorpe, with their cuſtoms and ſervices, to the church of the Holy Trinity of Norwich.

The temporalities of Norwich priory were 63s. 4d. —of Wymondham 5s.—of Hickling 6d.

In

In 1759 the Rev. William Greene was preſented to this rectory by the maſter and fellows of Clare-hall, Cambridge.

Edward Paulet Heyhoe, eſq. has a handſome ſeat in Hardingham; as alſo has Thomas Grigſon Payne, eſq. both fronting the common, about one mile from Hingham.

HOCKERING, called in Doomſday-book Hokelinka, as lying on a hill by the water, was the lordſhip of Ralph de Bellofago, or Beaufoe, of which Sigar, a free-man in king Edward's reign, was deprived. It was then valued at 4l. at the ſurvey at 5l. and was meaſured in North Tuddenham.

This Ralph de Beaufoe was a near relation to William de Beaufoe, biſhop of Thetford, the Conqueror's chancellor. Ralph left an only daughter and heireſs, Agnes, who married Hubert de Rie, caſtellan, or keeper, of Norwich caſtle, ſecond ſon of Hubert de Rie, a truſty ſervant to the Conqueror, when duke of Normandy.

His deſcendant, and probably grandſon, was Hubert de Rie, who in the 12th of Henry II. certified that he held thirty-five knights fees, for which he paid thirty-five marks to the king, and dying in the 18th of that king without iſſue male, his two daughters and co-heireſſes were, Aliva, who married John Marſhall, (nephew of William Marſhall, earl of Pembroke) made marſhal of Ireland by king John, in his 9th year, and Iſabel, the wife of Roger de Creſſi.

In the 13th of king John, John Mareſchall was lord of this town; and Aliva, or Avelina le Mareſchall,

chall, had a diſpute with Maud de Belhous, about the moiety of the fiſhery of Kerwen, in North Tuddenham-Faldgate, right of common in Kerwen, and taking of reed, &c. in Whytford, within the old bounds, and about ſwans.

John le Mareſchall, in the 6th of Edward I. held this lordſhip and advowſon, as the capital manor of the barony of Rye, and died ſeiſed of thirty-eight manors, and two hundreds, in Norfolk, in the 11th of Edward I. and in the 15th of that king he had a weekly market in this town on Monday.

On the death of John le Marſhall, in the 10th of Edward II. there was a capital meſſuage, and a park here, a wood called Swinehaugh, with a little wood, a water-mill, and wind-mill, &c. valued at 50l. per ann. and Hawyſia was his ſiſter and ſole heireſs, married to ſir Robert de Morley.

Sir Robert de Morley, and the lady Hawyſia his wife, paid their relief for all this barony, 100 marks, in 1323; in this noble family it remained till the death of Robert lord Morley, in 1442, who left an only daughter and heireſs, Alianore, after married to William, a younger ſon of William Lovell, lord of Tichmerſh, who died ſeized of it in 1475.

Henry Lovell, lord Morley, his ſon and heir, inherited it, and being ſlain at Dixmue, in Flanders, in 1489, having no iſſue, Alice, his only ſiſter, married to ſir William Parker, of London, inherited it, and had livery in the 5th of Henry VII.

Henry Parker, his ſon and heir, was ſummoned to parliament in the 21ſt of Henry VIII. by the title of lord Morley, baron of Rye.

Sir

Sir Henry Parker, knt. was lord Morley, baron of Rye, in 1561. His ſon, Edward, ſold great part of his eſtate to ſir Thomas Lovell, of Eaſt-Harling, and ſir Francis, his ſon, inherited it, and died about 1625, and then it came to his brother, ſir Charles Lovell, who was lord in the reign of Charles I.

Thomas Berney, eſq. of Swardeſton, was lord in 1658, John Berney, eſq. in 1676; Thomas Berney, eſq. in 1720; and Aſh Windham, eſq. in 1740.

It is probable that here was anciently a caſtle, as it was the capital manor of the barony of Rye.

The rent of aſſiſe of free and cuſtomary tenants of this manor in the 36th of Henry VIII. was 28l. 4d.

The church is dedicated to St. Michael, and is a rectory, valued formerly at fifteen marks. The canons of St. Mary of Southwark had a portion of tithe, valued at 40s. per ann. and the prior of Norwich one of four marks per ann. The preſent value is 7l. 2s. 6d. It is a ſingle pile, with a chancel, has a round tower with one bell, and ſtands near the road at the eaſt of the village.

In the chancel, on a grave-ſtone,—*Hic Jacet Tho. Houghton, clericus, qui obt.* 13 *Martij*, 1677, *et Maria, uxor ejus, quæ obt.* 22 *Oct̄ob.* 1635.

On one, with a braſs plate, and arms,

* *Milleno quingenteno anno ter quoq; deno,*
Et nono Domini, dum rex Henricus et annum
Primum poſt denos tres regni octavus agebat
Hic fuit Humfridus Smalpeice, æſtate ſepultus.

This

* Viz. Ao. D'mni. 1539, et Hen. VIII. Ao. 31.

This family of Smalpeice had a very conſiderable eſtate in this town.

The patronage ſeems to have been given to the convent of St. Mary Overy, in Southwark, who preſented at the nomination of the Morley family.

Roger Hunne, the rector in 1374, was ſued by ſix perſons for diſpoſing of the trees growing in the church-yard, at his pleaſure.

In 1603 the rector accounted for eighty-four communicants here, and that Martin Trot was patron, and lately the Lovells.

In the 6th of king John a fine was levied between John Marſhall, lord of the town, and Alice, his wife, and the prior of St. Mary of Southwark, who then granted to John, &c. the advowſons of this church, and that of Mattiſhall-Bergh, with the conſent of the biſhop of Norwich; the prior and his ſucceſſors were to have a penſion of ſix marks per ann. out of theſe churches, the prior to preſent, and John and his heirs to nominate, which is the firſt time we meet with ſuch a diſtinction; and in the 17th of Edward I. the prior recovered the ſix marks, by ſuit, of Robert de Wetherby, rector.

Henry I. confirmed to the priory of Norwich the grant of Hubert de Ria, of the tithe of his demeſnes here. This portion was valued at four marks per ann. the temporalities of Norwich priory at 12d. of Pentney at 4s. of Carrowe at 3s.

Thomas lord Morley aliened in the 13th of Richard II. to the Auſtin friars of Thetford a meſſuage, and

four acres of land in Thetford, and tenements here, &c.

The townſhip had in the 36th of Henry VIII. ſeven acres of meadow land, in five pieces, in broad meadow, and paid to the lord 10d. per ann. alſo a guild-hall, and paid a halfpenny per ann. alſo half an acre of meadow, and paid 1d. and an alder car of an acre, and paid 1d.

The village of Hockering lies on the turnpike road, ten miles from Norwich, and ſix from Eaſt Dereham.

In 1742 the Rev. George Howes was preſented to this rectory, conſolidated with Mattiſhall-Burgh, by Mr. Matthew Poſtlethwaite, *p. h. v.*

LETTON, wrote Lettuna in Doomſday-book. William earl Warren had the lordſhip of this town at the ſurvey, of which nine free-men had been deprived, valued in king Edward's time at 10s. but now at 20s. and there was a church endowed with twelve acres; it was ſix furlongs long, five broad, and paid 15d. gelt.

In 1161 Gilbert de Riſing was lord, and a great benefactor to the priory of Lewes; and Roger de Frevile conveyed in the 11th of king John, to Adam de Moundeford, rent of 20s. per ann. here.

Simon de Heacham, and his parceners, in 1277, had the homage of Morehoe; Richard Fitz-Warren the homage of Frevile; and in the 7th of Edward I. Richard de Breccles conveyed to Robert de Weaſthorp meſſuages and lands here.

Michael

Michael de Poinings, and his tenants, had lands held of the earl of Warren's fee in the 9th of Edward II. and Robert de Scales the fourth part of a fee in the 6th of Edward III.

In the 20th of Edward III. Thomas Howard, and Robert Curſon, held here and in Shipdham a quarter of a fee of Michael Poinings; and this was held of the earl of Arundel in the 3d of Henry IV.

After this it was in the Bramptons, and came to John Gurdon, eſq. eldeſt ſon of Robert Gurdon, eſq. of Aſſington, in Suffolk, by the marriage of Amy, ſole daughter and heireſs of William Brampton, eſq. of Letton, ſon of ſir Thomas Brampton.

This John was high ſheriff of Suffolk in 1585, and died in 1623, leaving Brampton Gurdon, eſq. his ſon and heir; and by his ſecond wife, Muriel, daughter of ſir Martin Sidley, of Morley, in Norfolk, was father of Brampton Gurdon, eſq. living in 1664, who married Mary, daughter of Henry Polſted, of London, gent. by whom he had Brampton Gurdon, eſq. and by his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Francis Thornhagh, of Fenton, in Nottinghamſhire, left Thornhagh Gurdon, eſq. father of Thornhagh Gurdon, eſq. by Elizabeth, daughter and co-heireſs of ſir William Cook, bart. lord of this town.

Lewes Priory Manor. Gilbert de Riſing in 1161 gave to this priory, in Suſſex, by deed (wherein he calls the monks *his lords*) half the ſoccage of Letton, for fifteen years; and after the coming of the king into England, when he ſent the abbots and earls through all England to enquire into the actions of the ſheriffs and provoſts, the other mediety, together with the advowſon, to the prior for ever.

At the diſſolution Henry VIII. Dec. 22, in his 29th year, granted it to Thomas duke of Norfolk.—Hugh de Gurnay, of Letton, granted them a tenement, &c. without date.

Under the invaſions of Hermerus de Ferrariis we find that he had ſeized on twenty-one acres of land, which two free-men held in the time of the Confeſſor, and were under protection only at that time, and one free-man poſſeſſed it under Hermerus, valued at 3s. 4d.

This came to the lords Bardolph, and in the 3d of Henry IV. Robert Read, and his parceners, held here, in Shipdham, Yaxham, &c. lands, ſome time William Atte-Rhode's, by the 5th part of a fee, of the honor of Wormegay; and Robert Fiſhpoole held it in the 5th of Henry VI.

William de Schoies had land, of which a free-man was deprived, valued at 23d.——*Thus far Mr. Parkin!—We ſhall now add a ſhort account of this town from a manuſcript of authority, and leave our readers to determine how much* doctors differ.

" Letton, a ſmall village ſituate between the two market towns of Dereham and Hingham, (written formerly Lacton, as ſuppoſed from the richneſs of its paſtures) was famous for its milk and butter; and it is remarked, that queen Elizabeth, while on her progreſs into Norfolk, and while on her viſit at Wood-Riſing, was ſupplied with butter three ſeveral times from a farm in the town of Letton, ſo remarkable was it even then for the goodneſs of its butter.

" The firſt we find mentioned as lord of the manor of Letton was John le Boteler; he was lord of the

the manor about the beginning of the reign of Edward I. and the manor of Letton is to this day called Butler's, in Letton.

"The next lord we find was Edmund de Squathing, or Swathing, who, in the 15th of Henry VI. we find (in point of time) conveyed it to Henry Sturmer; and in the 21ſt of Henry VIII. 1530, William Sharington, and Urſula, his wife, conveyed the manor of Cranworth to Henry Sturmer.

"The church of Letton, which was dedicated to All Saints, was pulled down in 1535 by ſir Richard Southwell, and the materials thereof carried to rebuild Riſing-hall, which in 17 was entirely pulled down, leaving only the farm-houſe.

"William Brampton, eſq. of Letton, purchaſed of Miles Spencer, doctor of laws, his capital meſſuage in the pariſh of St. Peter de Mancroft, and St. Stephen, and after purchaſed of ſir Edward Warner, and John Goſnold, eſq. four acres of land, lying in the field, called Chapel-field Croft, and was the ſame William Brampton who being in his winter-houſe, with other gentlemen, was appointed to treat with Kett, the rebel, and was, together with them, clapped into priſon and chains, till the rebellion was ſuppreſſed."

The church is a rectory, dedicated to All Saints; the ancient value was ſixteen marks, and the priory of Lewes had a portion of tithe valued at 20s. per ann. the preſent value is 7l. 13s. 8d.

Walter de Valeche, rector, ſet a fold on the land of his church in the 9th of Edward I. but it was not allowed.

In the 38th of Henry VIII. June 26, this church was conſolidated to that of Cranworth; and in 1762 the Rev. Robert Partridge was preſented to the united rectory by Thornhagh Gurdon, eſq. who is lord and patron, and reſides at his ſeat here;—a venerable building, ſurrounded by lofty trees, and neat gardens, all of which are ſo properly blended as to preſerve the air, or appearance, of feudal dignity.

MATTISHALL, or MATESHALE. The principal lordſhip at the ſurvey was in the hands of Ralph de Beaufoe, of which fourteen free-men, who held it in king Edward's time, were deprived; and a church, endowed with twenty acres, valued at 16d. halfpenny. In king Edward's time this lordſhip was valued at 60s. at the ſurvey at 43s. was ſeven furlongs long, ſix broad, and paid 36d. halfpenny gelt.

Ralph had alſo another tenure here, to make up his lordſhip, of which five free-men were deprived, valued at 20s. at the ſurvey at 32s. 4d. but the ſoc was in the abbot of Ely.

Hubert de Rie, caſtellan of Norwich, by the marriage of Agnes, only daughter and heireſs of Ralph, ſucceeded him; and from this family it came by Aliva, a daughter and co-heireſs to John Marſhal, of the family of the heirs of Pembroke, in the reign of Henry II. and by Hawys, daughter and heireſs of John Marſhal, to ſir Robert Morley, who was lord in 1323.

Robert lord Morley's only daughter and heireſs, Alianore, brought it by marriage to William Lovell, a younger ſon of the lord Lovell, of Tichmarſh, who died ſeiſed of it in 1475.

Alice,

Alice, only ſiſter and heireſs of Henry Lovell, lord Morley, married ſir William Parker, and he in her right enjoyed it in the 5th of Henry VII. his deſcendant, Edward Parker, lord Morley, about 1583, ſold great part of his inheritance, and this lordſhip, to ſir Thomas Lovell, of Eaſt Harling, and his ſon, ſir Francis, poſſeſſed it in 1620, &c. Thomas Berney, eſq. of Swardeſton, was lord in 1658; John Berney in 1676; Thomas Berney, eſq. in 1720; and Aſh Windham, eſq. in 1740.

The rent of aſſize of free and cuſtomary tenants of this manor, in the 36th of Henry VIII. was 18l. 13s.

In this town the church of Ely had in the time of the Confeſſor eight ſoc-men, who held land, &c. valued at 20s. at the ſurvey at 13s. only. This alſo was joined ſoon after the ſurvey to the aforeſaid manor.

John de Mareſchal held here and in North Tuddenham, in the reign of Edward I. one fee and an half of the biſhop of Ely. In the 20th of Edward III. Robert lord Morley held one fee and an half of the church of Ely.

Hermerus de Ferrariis had ſeized on a carucate and thirty-nine acres of land, held by twenty free-men in king Edward's reign, which lordſhip came by deſcent from Hermerus to the lords Bardolph, barons of Wormegay.

In the 38th of Henry III. William lord Bardolph had a charter for free-warren, as part of that manor.

In the 3d of Edward III. Robert Attehawe held the fourth part of a fee in this town, Yaxham, &c. of

Thomas lord Bardolph, and John de Wace a fourth part here, in Thuxton, &c.

In the 43d of that king Gregory Sterre conveyed by fine to John de Mountney land, &c. in Mattiſhall, &c.

On the attainder of Thomas lord Bardolph, in the reign of Henry IV. the king granted it with the honor of Wormegay to his brother, Thomas Beaufort, earl of Dorſet, and after duke of Exeter.

In the 22d of Edward IV. Roger Drury, eſq. and Ann, his wife, daughter and heireſs of Henry Sturmer, paſſed by fine to Alexander Creſſener, eſq. Henry L'Eſtrange, John Garneys, William Druty, eſq. Henry Fenne, &c. a conſiderable eſtate here, in Bergh, Hockering, &c. from the heirs of Ann. At the ſame time alſo John Pagrave, and Margaret, his wife, another of the daughters and coheireſſes of Sturmer, conveyed their right to Henry Fenne and his heirs.

In the 6th of Henry VIII. it was in the crown, together with the honor of Wormegay; and at this time was poſſeſſed by Henry Pagrave, who died lord of it, and of Bergh, in 1527, held of the ſaid honor.

By indenture made Aug. 9, 1667, William Bond, of London, eſq. granted and ſold to Sarah Biſpham, relict of Samuel Biſpham, M.D. and her heirs, the manor of Mattiſhall-Mounteney's, which ſir John Pagrave, of Northwood-Barningham, in Norfolk, bart. by indenture, dated in the 24th of Charles I. ſold to Samuel Smith, of Norwich, eſq. and Robert Willimot, of Grey's-Inn, eſq. both deceaſed, and to the ſaid William Bond for the term of 1000 years.

Owen

Owen Thornton, clerk, was lord about 1680, and gave it to his daughter.

William earl Warren had fourteen acres of land, of which a free-man was deprived, and it was valued in Thuxton.

In this pariſh lived an ancient family de Harleſton; Margaret, daughter of Robert Harleſton, of this town, the wife of Dr. Parker, archbiſhop of Canterbury, gave lands here in 1569 to the value of 50s. per ann. for the poor of this pariſh, and a ſermon to be preached in this church, which is preached every year by a fellow of Corpus Chriſti college, in Cambridge, on the Tueſday in Rogation week. This annual ſermon is much frequented, and the great reſort to it occaſions a ſort of fair on that day, and is commonly called Mattiſhall-gant, or gang, a word anciently uſed for perambulating the bounds in Rogation week.

Thomas Harleſton, gent. by his will in 1558, gave his tenement, called Sparrows, to be an almshouſe at Mattiſhall, and his houſe, called Coppes, to the poor of the ſaid town, with ſeveral ewes, and money to the poor of this town, &c.

Mat gives name to ſeveral towns, as a rivulet; thus, Materdale, in Cumberland; Matching, in Eſſex; and Matlock, in Derbyſhire.—*Vide Parkin.*

The church of Mattiſhall is dedicated to All Saints, and was anciently in the patronage of the Marſhalls, lords Marſhall of Ireland, valued at twenty-eight marks, and the vicarage at 40s.

The

The rectory is appropriated to Caius college, in Cambridge, and the vicarage is valued at 7l. 8s. 3d. ob. It conſiſts of a nave, north and ſouth aile, with a chancel, covered with lead, has a four-ſquare tower at the weſt end of the nave, embattled, in which hang ſix bells, a clock, and a dial.

In the nave are grave-ſtones:—*Pleaſance, wife of Robert Davy, gent. and late of Henry Croſſgrove, gent. printer, of Norwich, who died Aug.* 9, 1741, *aged* 36. —*William Barker, gent. who died February* 21, 1719, *aged* 74.

On a braſs plate,—*Orate p. a'ia Galfridj Davy, cuj; &c.*—with his portraiture, hands conjoined, and beads by his ſide.

In the chancel are plates in memory of ſeveral of the name of Croſshold.

On a grave-ſtone, with the arms of Neal,—*Sarah wife of Gibſon Neal, gent. who died July* 11, 1747, *in her* 57*th year.*

Another, with the ſaid arms,—*Gibſon Neal, gent. died April* 17, 1747, *in his* 57*th year.*

A ſtone,—*In memory of Colby Chamberlain, eſq. who died May* 23, 1742, *aged* 55.

Within the rails of the communion-table lye ſeveral grave-ſtones of marble,—*In memoriam chariſſimi fratris Gul. Sigiſwick, nuper vicar. hujus eccleſ. quondamq; Caij coll. in acad. Cantabr. ſocij ſenioris, obeuntis Sept.* 26, 1675, *ætat. ſuæ* 61, *Robert. frater, hunc lapidem poſuit*;—and the arms of Segiſwick.

The

The arms of Repps and Gooch.—*John Repps, eſq. of Reymerſton, who died Nov.* 23, 1696, *ætat. ſuæ* 61.

Another, with the ſaid arms in a lozenge,—*For Martha Repps, relict of John Repps, of Reymerſton, eſq. who died Nov.* 29, 1705.—Here are ſeveral other grave-ſtones with arms and inſcriptions to this family.

Alſo, a grave-ſtone,—*For Nich. Howlet, B. D. preb. of Chriſt church, Norwich, rector of Reiſham, vicar of Mattiſhall, who departed June* 17, 1652, *leaving one daughter, married to John Repps, of Weſt Walton, eſq.*

In the chapel, at the end of the ſouth aile, dedicated to St. Mary,—*Hic jacet in ſpe beatæ reſurrectionis Gulielm. Brabant, A. M. ex agro Lacaſtrienſi hujus eccleſiæ quondam vicarius (et honoratiſſimo D'no. Joh. Egerton, Comiti de Brigewater, - - - - -) qui ob.* 2°. *Feb.* 1688, *ætat. ſuæ* 38.

In a window of the chapel, in the ſouth aile, are the arms of the *Quinque Vulnera.*

In the 17th of Richard II. a patent was granted to appropriate this rectory to the college of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, in Cambridge, now called Caius college. This rectory, and the patronage of the vicarage, was given by dame Mary Pakenham, relict of ſir ——— Pakenham, knt. for the ſtipend of one fellow.

The vicar in 1603 returned 300 communicants to be then in this pariſh; and in 1743 the Rev. Henry Goodall, D. D. prebendary of Norwich, was preſented to the vicarage of Mattiſhall, conſolidated with

with Patteſley, in Launditch. by the maſter and fellows of Caius college, Cambridge.

Robert Foſter Wulman, by his will in 1507, bequeathed to the making of a chapel of our Lady, in the eaſt end of the ſouth aile in this church, forty marks, to be buried there, and to have a grave-ſtone to the price of 40s. Here were in this church five guilds, and five lights.

In the vicarage-houſe were the arms of the ſee of Norwich and of biſhop Bateman; of Bohun, earl of Eſſex, and of the lord Morley.

Mattiſhall is a large and handſome village, ſituated on a road which leads from Honinghnm, and Norwich, to Yaxham, Shipdham, &c. In it are ſome neat houſes, and the church is remarkably lofty.

MATTISHALL-BERGH, or BURGH, in old writing called Bergh *Parva*, to diſtinguiſh it from South Bergh, in this hundred; alſo Bergh near Mattiſhall, as lying near to it, and having the ſame lords.

It is not mentioned in the book of Doomſday, being accounted for in the lordſhip of Ralph de Beaufoe, in Mattiſhall, and that of Hermerus de Ferrariis, in the ſaid town, as extending into this village.

The principal manor was that of Richard de Beaufoe, which came to the Marſhalls; John le Marſhall was lord and patron in the 11th of Edward I. and held it of the biſhop of Ely, by knight's ſervice. From the Marſhalls it deſcended to the lords Morley; and in the 3d of Henry IV. Edmund Berry, and Richard Denny, of Wymondham, held here, and in Eaſt Tuddenham, &c. the fourth part of a fee of Oliver

Oliver Groſs, and he of the lord Morley. From the lords Morley it came to the Lovells, and from them to the Parkers, lords Morley.

Edward Parker, lord Morley, who lived in the reign of queen Elizabeth, ſold great part of his eſtate, and about 1583 this lordſhip, to ſir Thomas Lovell, of Eaſt Harling, and his heirs inherited.

BARDOLPH'S MANOR. Hermer de Ferrariis' manor (who was lord of Mattiſhall at the ſurvey) deſcended to the lords Bardolph, barons of Wormegay, and became part of that barony, and extended into this village.

On the attainder of lord Bardolph it was granted with that barony to Thomas Beaufort, earl of Dorſet, and after duke of Exeter.

The church has only an aile, with a chancel, covered with tile, a ſquare tower, and three bells; there is a chapel on the north ſide, and is dedicated to St. Peter; it is a rectory; the ancient value was five marks, and the preſent value is 3l. 15s. 10d.

The canons of Southwark St. Mary had a portion of tithe valued at three marks, and the prior of Norwich 5s. per ann.

On a grave-ſtone in the church,—*Hic jacet corpus Audoeni Thornton, clerici, qui obt. 7 die Apr.* 1688, *ætat.* 78.

One,—*In memory of Robert Dannye, gent. who died in* 1699, *aged* 52; *and of Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of John Smith, gent. and died* 1691.

Another,

Another,—*For Robert Dannye, ſon of John Dannye, gent. who died* 1670; *and for Anne, his wife, daughter of Willam Steward, gent. who died* 1694.

On a monument of black marble,—*Reſurrectionem beatam juxta manent reliquiæ Eliz. Guliel. Dannye, filiæ, Tho. Jegon, clerici, obt.* 24 *Dec. A°. Dni.* 1708, *æt.* 24.

In the 16th of Edward I. the prior of Southwark St. Mary's granted this advowſon to John le Marſhall; till this time the prior was patron.

In 1603 the rector certified that there were eighty-one communicants, and that ſir Francis Lovell was patron, to whom the advowſon had been granted; but it appears that Henry lord Morley had releaſed to Henry St. John the patronage for forty years.

Thomas Harleſton, gent. of this town, lord of Aphow's, &c. in Eaſt Tuddenham, was buried in the church in 1558.

William Teder, by his will in 1504, gave the tenor bell.

In 1742 the Rev. George Howes was preſented to this rectory, conſolidated with Hockering, by Mr. Matthew Poſtlethwaite, *p. h. v.*

REYMERSTON is but once mentioned (Raimeſtuna) in the book of Doomſday, which is under the invaſions of Hermerus de Ferrariis, who had ſeized on the poſſeſſions of five free-men, who had, in king Edward's reign, land, &c. valued at 10s. at the ſurvey at 7s.

The lords Bardolph, deſcended from Hermerus, were lords; and in the 38th of Henry III. William lord Bardolph had a charter of free-warren in his demeſne lands here.

In the 5th of Henry VI. Robert Fiſhpoole held the fourth part of a fee here, &c. of the honor of Wormegay, which, in the 3d of Edward III. was poſſeſſed by Robert Attehaw, and always went with that honor.

The king's manors of Cranworth, and Flockthorpe, extended into this town, and Oſbert de Mundeford, in the 18th of Henry III. held of the earl Warren's manor of Letton, &c. the third part of a fee here, &c.

In 1277 it was found that the homage of the earl performed ſuit of court to the biſhop's hundred court of Mitford.

In the 15th of Richard II. Richard lord Poynings held it of the earl of Arundel, and Reginald Cobham had an intereſt in it in the 9th of Hen. VI.

Sir Roger Wodehouſe, in the 4th and 5th of Philip and Mary, conveyed to Thomas Crane the manor of Reymerſton, and Francis Sturgeas, eſq. was lord in the 33d of Elizabeth.

WENDLING-ABBEY MANOR. In the reign of Edward I. the abbot held the 8th part of a fee of the earl Warren. Their temporalities were valued at 16s. per ann.

CALVELEY MANOR. Calveley was, in the reign of the Confeſſor, at the time of making the ſurvey (Cavelea) a town, or village, now (and ſome centuries

ries paſt) deſtroyed, and all the lands belonging to it are included and eſteemed as parts of the townſhip of Reymerſton.

At the ſurvey it was in the church of Ely, probably of the gift of Ethelwolf, biſhop of Wincheſter in the reign of king Edgar, the Saxon king, and ſtands thus accounted for:——"Berner held of the abbot of Ely the manor that the church of Ely held in king Edward's time, valued at 20s. It was four furlongs long, and four broad, and paid 5d. gelt."

Godric claimed this land belonging to the fee of Ralph earl of Norfolk, as holding it before he forfeited, and the hundred witneſſed it.

William Longchamp, biſhop of Ely, who was chancellor to Edward I. and the pope's legate, granted to Robert Ruſſell, his ſervant, and his heirs, all the land of Calveley, as an eſcheat.

In the 32d of Henry III. William de Calvelegh, in right of Sarah, his wife, poſſeſſed the fee which Richard Ruſſel, her late huſband, held.

On Auguſt 29, 1259, William de Swathing, and William de Calveley, bound themſelves, on account of certain diſputes, to ſtand to arbitration, and he that refuſed to ſubmit to it, was to pay the forfeiture to the building of the church of Weſtminſter, then building.

In the 16th of Edward I. John, ſon of William de Calveley, granted to the prioreſs of St. Radegund's, in Cambridge, to preſent then to thechurch of Reymerſton, with a *ſalvo jure ſuo*; and in the ſaid year William de Mareſchall claimed free-warren, and

and a grant of a fair in his manor here every year, for five days. This muſt be on account of his lordſhip of Hingham, which he obtained of the king in the preceding year.

Beſides this family, lands here were in the hands of Burdeleys, Coroner, Le-Deſpencer, and Rothwell.

Edmund Swathing, eſq. in the 3d of Henry IV. held the lordſhip of Calveley by one fee, of the biſhop of Ely; and in the 9th of Henry VI. William Paſton, eſq. of Paſton, releaſed to Robert Wetheringſet, archdeacon of Ely, and Oliver Groos, eſq. all his right herein.

Francis Sturges, eſq. was lord in the 33d of Elizabeth. In the 4th of James I. ſir George Coppin, knt. poſſeſſed it, and ſold it ſoon after to Thomas Bateman, eſq. Anthony, his ſon, died ſeiſed of the ſcite of Calveley manor, January 4, in the 22d of James I. and left it to his daughter and coheireſs, Philadelphia.

After this it came by —— Tayler to Robert Rugg, gent. His ſon, Thomas Rugg, conveyed to Robert Clayton, eſq. (afterwards ſir Robert) a moiety of the manor of Reymerſton, alias Calveley-hall, or Yards, with the appurtenances, one garden, one orchard, ſixty acres of land, ten of meadow, thirty of paſture, forty of wood, and ten of heath, in 1660.

Parkin ſays, a Mr. Salter, of London, is the preſent lord.

The church of Reymerſton is a rectory, dedicated to St. Peter. The ancient value was 18 marks; the preſent, 11l. 12s. 6d.

John de Reymerſton conveyed by fine, in the 2d of Henry III. to Lettice, prioteſs of St. Radegund's, in Cambridge, the advowſon of this church.

In the 6th of Henry IV. a *quare impedit* was brought by Robert Fulborne, of Letton, againſt Edmund Swathing, &c. for the right of preſentation to this church; and before this, in 1422, Robert Folſham, rector, reſigned, and a *quare impedit* was then brought by Edmund Swathing, eſq. againſt John Manning, &c. who preſented Folſham, and ſaid that the right belonged to an acre of land in their poſſeſſion.

In 1603 the rector returned 120 communicants to be here, and that Francis Sturges, eſq. deceaſed, was the late patron.

In 1761 the Rev. John Longe was preſented to the rectory of Reymerſton, or Remerſton, by Francis Longe, eſq. of Spixworth, in Taverham hundred, who has a conſiderable lordſhip here.

The church has a nave, a north and ſouth aile, with a chancel, and five bells.

On a grave-ſtone, with a braſs, in the ſouth aile,—*Orate p. a'i'a. Robti. Tychepole, qui obt. Jan.* 10, 1509.

In the chancel, a curious mural marble monument, thus inſcribed:—*M. S. Induviæ Robi. Longe, armigeri, hic juxta repoſitæ, quater maritus, ter quater pater, utroq; nomine feliciſſimus, qui pro votis uxorem accepit, ac filios debitum innatæ largitati patrimonium naſcens accepit. Dei benedictione ſuiſq; ſtudiis honeſte et modice diteſcens, ſibi benefecit et caute vixit. Plura tantum appetens, quo plura daret, id unum habere reputans, quod effudaſſet, Vir negotijs ſolers, vitæ integer, pietate*

pietate ſanctus, cujus vitam ſi ſpeculeris, ac mortem, dubites, an potuit vivere ſanctius, an obire ſecurius. Laboris et ſenij - - - - - - - - - dilerantis mundi pertæſus, ſomno profundo placide conſignatus eſt morti, et in ſpem lætam reſurrectionis paulo minor ſeptuagenio occubuit, Æræ Chriſtianæ 1688.——*Sumptibus Franc. Longe, filii natu minoris.*

In a north window are the arms of lord Bardolph, and in the eaſt window of the north aile thoſe of Swathing;—in a ſouth window the arms of Argenton.

Thomas Grigſon, eſq. has a ſeat and conſiderable property in this town.

SHIPDHAM, or SHIPDAM, and THORPE. In the book of Doomſday we find no account of Shipdham being a lordſhip, or poſſeſſed by the church of Ely, but that Thorpe, a town of conſiderable value at that time, though now included in Shipdham, was one of the lordſhips of that monaſtery in the Saxon age, given to it, with that of Eaſt-Dereham, by Ethelwold biſhop of Wincheſter, in the reign of king Edgar, and extended into Shipdham.

King Edward the Confeſſor, in his charter of confirmation of the lordſhips, &c. belonging to the abbey of Ely, mentions this town of Thorpe; and when Leoffin, the 5th abbot, aſſigned certain towns and lordſhips, in the time of king Canute, for the annual ſupport of it, Eaſt Dereham and Thorpe are named together, and were to find proviſions for two weeks.

At the ſurvey, St. Etheldreda, that is the church of Ely, had poſſeſſions, then valued at 60s. at which

time the whole was valued at 11l. was one leuca long, and one broad, and paid 15d. gelt.

In Thorpe, &c. in this hundred, five ſoc-men of St. Etheldreda had fifty acres, and a carucate, valued at 8s.

On the foundation of the ſee of Ely, this lordſhip was aſſigned to the biſhop, and made part of his barony; and in the 29th of Henry III. the biſhop had a market and fair granted to him.

In 1277 it was found that he enjoyed the privileges as mentioned in Eaſt Dereham, and ——— de Cateſton did ſuit to his hundred court, for tenements and lands here. He was patron of the church of Shipdham.

The demeſne lands were 236 acres and a half, by the leſs hundred, the perch being at ſixteen feet and an half, and to be plowed by two plows of four oxen, and two Scots each, with two horſes for harrow; every acre valued at 12d. per acre per ann. The commons of Weſtmore, Lingmore, Northwood, and Wickſmeeth, are bounded, and they who intercommon are mentioned.

Old Park, called Little-Haw, and the New Park, Weſt-Haw, the woods of Southaw, Carſhaw, and Blackmere-Haw, contained ſeventy acres, in which the towns of Letton, and Reymerſton, had liberty of common for their beaſts, with the biſhop's, horn under horn, but the biſhop alone had power to dig, as lord of the ſoil.

He

He had alſo two wind-mills belonging to this manor, and the ſuit belonging to them, with free-warren in the whole manor.

In the 34th of Henry VI. this lordſhip was worth 44l. 3s. 6d. per ann. and in the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary 45l. 18s. 3d. as by the accounts of the biſhop's regiſter general.

Soon after this it came to the crown, and was granted by act of parliament, in the firſt year of Elizabeth, and confirmed, moſt probably, by the 19th chapter in the acts of the ſaid year, which was before the deprivation of biſhop Thurleby.

No printed author (that we have ſeen) mentions this:—And on Auguſt 9, in her 3d year, ſir William Wodehouſe, knt. of Hickling, in Happing hundred, had a grant of this manor, (late the biſhop of Ely's) with the park, and advowſon of the church, paying a fee-farm rent of 21l. 6s. 5d. per annum, with a cloſe, called the Lord's Cloſe; and on the 9th of May, anno 26, ſir Thomas Wodehouſe had a new grant of it, with the deer in the park, all the woods and underwoods, and about 1585 conveyed it to ſir Thomas Gaudy, of Claxton, a judge of the common pleas, who died ſeiſed of it November 1, in the 30th year of that reign.

Robert Gaudy, his ſon, paſſed it to William Caſtleton, eſq. created a baronet Auguſt 9, 1641, and ſir John, his ſon, preſented in 1673: Edmund Caſtleton ſold it to Charles lord viſcount Townſhend about 1704, and in that family it continues.

William earl Warren had a conſiderable lordſhip in Shipdham, of which eleven free-men were de-

prived on the conqueſt, then valued at 30s. at the ſurvey at 40s. and the moiety of a church endowed with eight acres. It was one leuca long, and five furlongs broad, and paid 15d. gelt. And, under the title of Invaſions, we find that his men (thoſe who held lands under him) had invaded or ſeized on lands in Shipdham, which Brodo, and Alwin, held under king Edward, valued at 8s. 1d. ob. This was always part of the king's manor of Saham, and no livery was made of it, as the hundred witneſſed.

The ancient family of Caſton was early enfeoffed of this, and held it of the earl Warren.

William de Cateſtune (or Caſton) poſſeſſed it in 1200; and in the 5th of Edw. III. ſir John de Caſton.

After this, by Elizabeth, a daughter and co-heireſs of ſir John Caſton, it came to ſir Robert Carbonel, ſon of ſir William Carbonel, of Bodingham, in Suffolk, and ſir John died lord in 1425, leaving Thomas, his ſon, a minor, who dying in his minority, it deſcended to the Berneys.

Margaret, daughter of ſir Robert Caſton, married William de Reedham, of Reedham, in Norfolk, and Margaret, daughter and heireſs of this William, having married Thomas Berney, eſq. ſecond ſon of John Berney, eſq. of Witchingham, was lord of Reedham, &c. in her right, in the reign of Richard II.

John Berney, eſq. ſon and heir of Thomas aforeſaid, died lord of this manor in 1400, and gave it to his ſecond ſon, Philip, with the manor of Caſton, who dying without iſſue in 1453, bequeathed them to his younger brother, John, but ſoon after they came to the family of the Reedhams.

In

In the 19th of Henry VIII. Oct. 27, John Berney, eſq. died ſeiſed of it, held of the manor of Saham-Tony, by fealty, and 3s. rent per ann.

Richard Berney, eſq. died lord in 1695; he mortgaged it, and in 1709 it was ſold by a decree in chancery, to pay his debts.

Thomas de Snetterton had an intereſt here in the 7th of Edward II.

Humphrey de Skypdham, or Shipdham, and his tenants, in the 20th of Edward III. held the 10th part of a fee of the earl Warren.

In the 4th of Henry IV. ſir Robert Knolls held the ſame of the earl of Arundel.

Hermerus de Ferrariis' lordſhip of Whinbergh, and Garveſton, extended into this town; he had alſo one ſoc-man here, with ſixteen acres of land, valued at 4s. held by Adelm.

Hermerus' intereſt came to the lords Bardolph, of Wormegay, and went with that barony.

William Atte-Rode, of Shipdham, held in the 3d of Edward III. the fourth part of a fee in this town, &c. of the honor of Wormegay. Robert Atte-How poſſeſſed it in the 20th of that king; and in the ſaid reign John de Thetford, &c. held lands, called Rode-Fee, with a wind-mill, rents, and ſervices, of the lord Bardolph; and Robert Reed poſſeſſed it in the 3d of Henry IV.

The Conqueror at the ſurvey had here, and in Cranworth, thirty acres, held by a ſoc-man, in Stowe, valued at 2s.

This was ſoon after granted by the earl Warren, and ſo was joined to the lordſhip abovementioned, of Caſton, &c.

A market weekly on Thurſday, and a fair for three days, beginning on Sts. Peter and Paul's day, was granted in 29 of Henry III. to Hugh de Northwold, biſhop of Ely, who built a great hall in his palace here.

In 1639, on an inquiſition for charitable uſes, it was found that the moiety of a manor, called Bennet's, with meſſuages, lands, &c. on the ſouth-weſt part of the church, belonged to the townſhip, worth 18l. per ann. and that out of it bread and wine had been found for the communion, and the church repaired.

William Hatterſley, rector, by will, in 1608, gave 20l. to be put out at intereſt for the poor; and Alice, his widow, by will, in 1614, gave 20l. to the ſame uſe; and John Bullock 10l. in 1617.

John Tudenham, clerk, gave by will, in 1613, a tenement, called Sparks, and half a rood of land, for the dwelling of four poor people.

William Mowting, of Eaſt Dereham, by will, in 1561, for the relief of the blind and lame, &c. gave 14l. per ann. in lands; all which gifts had been ſadly abuſed, &c. and then rectified.

The town, ſays Mr. Parkin, ſeems to take its name from ſome ſtream, &c. of water, called Scip, or

or Shep. In Kent we find a lathe, or hundred, and an iſland, called Shepey; thus, Shepeſhead, in Leiceſterſhire; Shipley, in Derbyſhire, &c. but we apprehend the origin of its name might be Sheep-dam, a place where ſheep in the proper ſeaſon were uſually waſhed; or Sheep-ham, a town near which are very extenſive commons for ſheep, &c. Why it is called (unleſs by corruption) Shipdham, we cannot gueſs, unleſs that ſome feature of the country might formerly be thought to reſemble a ſhip. We find this town once wrote Sepedeham.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and was in the patronage of the biſhop of Ely. It appears that the rector in the reign of Edward I. had a manſe, with ſixty acres of glebe, and that there had been formerly a vicar belonging to it, but at that time there was only a rector; the value was forty marks; Peterpence 2s. 1od. The monks of Caſtle-Acre had a portion of tithe, valued at 5s. per ann. given them by John de Cateſton, viz. two parts of the tithes of his lordſhip in this town, and Rockland, which the biſhop of Norwich confirmed to them in 1265. The preſent value is 26l. 7s. 5d. ob. and pays firſt fruits and tenths.

The church is a good pile, with a very broad nave and chancel, and a north aile that runs the whole length of the nave and chancel, all covered with lead; at the weſt end of the nave is a ſtrong four-ſquare tower, embattled, with five bells, a dial, and clock. On the tower is a handſome lanthorn, or turret, covered with lead, which is ſeen at ſome diſtance. Between the nave and chancel hangs the ſaints bell.

In the chancel lie ſeveral grave-ſtones for the Bullocks, on them this ſhield: Bullock impaling Fluellin;

In

In memory of Mary, wife of Thomas Bullock, gent. eldeſt daughter of William Fluellin, eſq. alderman of London, who died October 29, 1683, *and left one daughter, Diana, and three ſons, Thomas, William, and Robert, now living, who enjoying a plentiful eſtate, by the death of ſir Thomas Colby, of Kenſington, bart. ſon of Elizabeth, ſecond daughter of alderman Fluellin, have placed this inſcription in gratitude to God and her memory, May* 12, 1730.

On a braſs plate,—*Pray for the ſoul of Mr. Thomas Alkoke, ſome time parſon of this church, who died Sept.* 19, *A. D.* 1523, *on whoſe ſoul, &c.*

In the north aile a grave-ſtone, with the arms of Bullock,—*In memory of Robert Bullock, late of Hingham, in Norfolk, gent. who died Aug.* 20, 1729, *in the* 60*th year of his age.*

In 1603 the rector returned, in anſwer to the king's queries, that there were 480 communicants.

We find the chapel of St. Mary, and that of St. Thomas, mentioned in this church in 1503; probably this was the chapel in the north aile in which there were in the eaſt window formerly theſe arms:—Lord Tony, impaling with argent, on a feſs, gules, three bezants, between three torteaux; Grey, biſhop of Ely; Morton, biſhop of Ely, &c.

In 1487 John Alcock, biſhop of Ely, granted forty days indulgence to all who would contribute to the repair of the chapel of St. Thomas of Canterbury, ſituate in a certain hermitage within this pariſh, and of the ways that lay about it.

In

In 1512 there was a ſuit between the rector of Saham-Tony and the rector of Shipdham, on account of tithe milk, and the agiſtment of cattle feeding on the common of Shipdham.

We find a certain common paſture, called Weſtmore, belonging to the lordſhip of Shipdham, beginning at the church, and leading and continuing to the meres, or bounds, between the liberties of the ſee of Ely, and the hundred of Wayland, which belonged to the heirs of Ralph de Tony; and this, we ſuppoſe, was the common in diſpute.

In 1754 the Rev. Colby Bullock was preſented to this rectory by the right honourable lord viſcount Townſhend.

The temporalities of Caſtle-Acre priory were 18s. 4d. per ann. in 1428; of St. Bennet at Holme abbey 17s. 3d. of Wendling 2s. 6d. of Colcheſter 8s. of Lewes priory 6s. and of Beeſton-Regis 11d.

Shipdham is a conſiderable village, on the road between Eaſt Dereham and Watton, in which are ſome genteel houſes, as country ſeats.

SOUTH-BERGH, BURGH, or BARROW, wrote in Doomſday-book Berch. William earl Warren had a grant of the lands of ſeven free-men, and there was then a church endowed with twelve acres; the whole was valued at 20s. per ann. It was ſix furlongs long, five broad, and paid 15d. gelt.

In the 9th of king John Thomas de Benefeld was lord of this manor, held of the earl Warren, and conveyed to Walter de Bergh the advowſon of the church of St. Andrew of South-Bergh. It was ſometimes called

called Bergh *Magna*, and alſo Bergh *by Hingham*, to diſtinguiſh it from Bergh by Mattiſhall, both of them lying in Mitford hundred.

In the 53d of Henry III. Henry de Bergh, or Berk, gave lands here to Jeffrey de Hingham; and in the 13th of Edward I. Richard de South-Bergh granted to his daughter, Ella, or Alice, wife of John de Calveley, a meſſuage, with lands here, and in Wood-Riſing, he preſenting to the church in 1329, in her right.

In the 26th of Edward III. Richard de Wyrham conveyed to William, ſon of John de Calveley, this lordſhip and advowſon.

This William died ſoon after, without iſſue; for in the 25th of that king, Amicia, or Alianore, married to John Caroner, was found to be ſiſter and coheireſs of John de Calveley, father of William.

John Atte-Thorn preſented to the church in the ſaid year, probably in right of his wife, another of the ſiſters and coheireſſes.

John Botyld preſented in 1375, and in 1389, whoſe right came probably by Caroner.

Thomas Croſts, of Weſtall, ſenior, eſq. preſented in 1439, and Thomas Croſts, of Norfolk, in 1463; Thomas Grey, eſq. as lord, in 1550, who was lord alſo in 1556; but before this, in the 17th of Henry VII. Thomas Caus paſſed by fine this lordſhip of Botyld's, with lands in this town, Hardingham, and Hingham, and the advowſon, to Francis Calybut, &c.

In

In 1561 John Aldham, gent. was lord in right of his wife, ———. On September 17, in the 11th of Elizabeth, he ſold to Thomas Thwayte, of Hardingham, eſq. a moiety of the manor of Botyld, and a moiety of the advowſon, and after, the other moiety of both, which manor was poſſeſſed by Francis Cuſhion, of Hingham, who left four daughters and coheireſſes.

Thomas Thwayte conveyed it in the 23d of Elizabeth, July 15, to Francis Sturges, eſq. who preſented in 1587; he died ſeiſed.

Thornhagh Gurdon, eſq. was lord and patron in 1714, in which family it remains, Thornhagh Gurdon, eſq. of Letton, being now (1780) lord and patron. The manor of Calveley, in Reymerſton, extended into this. In the 8th of king John William Coke had an intereſt herein, and conveyed lands held by knight's ſervice. In 1277 William de Calveley held it.

In Bergh, Hermerus de Ferrariis had ſeized on two acres of land, belonging to a free-man, valued at 6d. This was part of Wace's manor in Thuxton, Mattiſhall, &c.

The church is a rectory, dedicated to St. Andrew; the ancient value was twelve marks. Richard de Bergh was patron about the 9th of Edward I. The preſent value is 5l. 13s. 6d. ob.

In 1603 the rector returned ninety-ſix communicants, and that Thomas Forth, yeoman, was then patron.

The

The temporalities of Weſtacre priory, in meadows, were 3s. and in 1762 the Rev. Robert Partridge was preſented to this rectory by Thornhagh Gurdon, eſq.

THUXTON, or THURSTON, William earl Warren had the lordſhip of which ten free-men were deprived, valued at the ſurvey at 20s. before at 10s. The ſaid earl poſſeſſed alſo nine acres, of which a free-man was deprived, valued at 2s. per ann. The king had a lordſhip, which Godric took care of, as his ſteward, or bailiff; four ſoc-men in Tuſtuna, and four in Turſtaneſtuna, held lands belonging to the manor of Swathing, under which they ſtand valued and accounted.

It is to be obſerved, that Tuſtuna, and Turſtaneſton, appear by this account in Doomſday-book to be two diſtinct places. Turſtaneſton was probably a hamlet to Thurſton. Theſe manors of the earl and of the king were afterwards united, and ſo we ſhall treat of them together.

The family of de Thurſton, or Thuxton, were early enfeoffed of the earl Warren's manor. Of this family was Eborard de Thuxton, who was living here in the reign of Richard I.

The Gurneys were early enfeoffed of the manor that Godric held, and the Thurſtons held it of them.

John and Richard de Thurſton were lords in the 9th of king John, and the patronage belonged to it.

In 1381 Edmund Gurney preſented to this church. In 1387 William de Thurſton was lord; and in the year 1472 John Ovy, of Worſtead, was lord of the manor

manor of Thuxton; and Thomas, his ſon, who died in 1473. ordered it to be ſold to pay his debts. In 1500 William Gurney preſented to the church.

In 1503 ſir Thomas Wodehouſe, of Kimberley, was lord, and Wace's manor paid to him 6d. per annum.

Robert Newport, eſq. conveyed in the 37th of Henry VIII. to ſir John Clere, the third part of this manor; and Thomas Aſtley conveyed in the 3d of Edward VI. a third part to Robert Richer.

In the 44th of Elizabeth, William Thurſbye, gent. had a *præcipe* to render the manor of Thuxton to Froximer Cocket, gent.

Hermerus de Ferrariis had invaded, or ſeized on the property of ſeven free-men, valued then at 20s. but now (1086) at 26s. 8d.

This came to the lords Bardolph, and was part of their barony of Wormegay; and in the 20th of Edward III. John Wace, of Thurſton, held here, and in Mattiſhall, a quarter of a fee of lord Bardolph.

In the 8th of Henry VI. Henry Sharington, eſq. purchaſed it of Henry Periz, clerk, for 42l. 6s. 8d. Thomas Sharington, eſq. of Cranworth, was lord in the 19th of Henry VII. and paid wayt-fee to the caſtle of Wormegay, every twenty-four weeks, 1s. 6d.

Robert Ball, gent. had a *præcipe* in the 18th of Elizabeth to render to Robert Duke the manor of Wace's, with meſſuages and lands in Thuxton, &c. John Fuller, gent. was lord of Wace's in 1640.

Roger

Roger Bigot had a lordſhip at the ſurvey, which Rotbert was infeoffed of by him, poſſeſſed by a freeman in the reign of king Edward, valued at 4s. and here was a church endowed with ſixteen acres, valued at 16d. This appears to be held by the family of de Thurſton in the 11th of Richard II. of dame Catherine Bigot, and extended into Hardingham, Reymerſton, &c.

The church of Ely had alſo at the ſurvey, in this town, Thorpe, and Yaxham, five ſoc-men, who held lands, valued at 8s. but this ſeems to be part of the manor of Thorpe, or Shipdham, and to go along with the biſhop of Ely's lordſhip there.—The temporalities of Weſtacre priory were 15s.

The church is a rectory, dedicated to St. Paul, anciently valued at ten marks; the preſent value is 4l. 6s. 2d. and is diſcharged of firſt fruits and tenths.

In 1603 the rector returned forty communicants; and Francis Long, eſq. was patron in 1740.

In 1752 the Rev. Charles Buckle was preſented to the rectory of Thuxton, *alias* Threxton, by Charles Buckle, eſq. deputy-recorder of Norwich.

In the church was a grave-ſtone,—*In memory of John Futter, gentleman, late of this town, who died Janu.* 1572.

A grave-ſtone for—*Catherine, third wife of Gregory Pagrave, daughter of* ——— *Pigeon, who died July* 15, 1596.

For—*Mary Seſoule, ſecond wife of Greg. who died July*, 1587.

In

In a north window of the church are the arms of Whinburgh, impaling ſable, two bendlets, ermine.

In the 19th of Henry VII. Thomas Sharington, of Cranworth, eſq. lord of Wace's manor, and having a good eſtate here, agreed with ——— Heyward, of Norwich, to glaze a window in this church, at 7s. 3d. farthing per foot, which was to be painted with the hiſtory of the Transfiguration of our Lord, his own picture, and his wife's, kneeling, in their coats of arms; and above, in the ſaid window, ſix eſchutcheons of the arms of their parents, to be given him by Thomas, who paid Hayward 6s. 8d. in hand.

Thuxton lies on the road from Mattiſhall to Hingham, and adjoins to Garveſton.

EAST TUDDENHAM. Hermerus de Ferrariis was chief lord of this town when Doomſday-book was made, on the deprivation of Turchetel, who held it in the reign of the Confeſſor, with a church endowed with twenty acres, valued then in the whole at 16s. at the ſurvey at 20s. It was ſeven furlongs long, and ſix broad, whoever ſhould poſſeſs it, and paid 22d. halfpenny gelt.

All the churches belonging to Hermerus's land are valued with the lordſhips.

Hermerus had alſo ſeized on lands, &c. belonging to ſix free-men, who lived under protection only in king Edward's time, valued at 26s. 8d. then, but at the ſurvey at 24s.

COCKFIELD'S MANOR. Turchetel had large poſſeſſions, and was ſucceeded therein on his deprivation by Hermerus, by gift of the Conqueror; from him de-

ſcended the lords Bardolph, barons of Wormegay; and the ancient family of de Melton, *alias* Conſtable, lords of Melton-Conſtable, in Holt hundred, were early enfeoffed of it. Peter le Conſtable de Melton was lord in the reign of Henry II. and in this family it remained till on the death of Jeffrey, ſon of Peter de Melton, the inheritance came to his three ſiſters and coheireſſes; Iſabel, married to Adam de Cokefield; Alice, to Robert de Cokefield; and Edith, to ſir Thomas de Eſteley, or Aſtley.

In the 35th of Henry III. Robert Adam de Cockfield impleaded Alice le Mareſchall, lady of North Tuddenham, for fiſhing in their fiſhery of Eaſt-Tuddenham, from the old mill of Hockering, to the mill called Gladwar; but it appearing that the fiſhery was the right of Alice's father, Hubert de Rie, and all her anceſtors, and that her huſband held it, judgment was given for her.

Sir John de Cockfield, lord here, was living in the 26th of Edward III. and paid 40s. on the creation of Edward prince of Wales, then a knight.

It was held of lord Bardolph by this family, till ſir John de Cockfield, who died about the 30th of Henry VI. without iſſue, was ſucceeded by Agnes, his ſiſter and heireſs, the wife of John Talboys, of Stallingburgh, in Lincolnſhire, eſq. by whom he had his ſon and heir, John, whoſe only daughter, Margaret, married John Aſcough, eſq. ſon of ſir William Aſcough, bart. of Lincolnſhire.

This John was lord in the 8th of Edward IV. and ſold it to William Paſton, eſq.

Sir

Sir William Paſton (fourth ſon of ſir William, the judge) was lord in the ſaid reign, and by Lady Ann, his wife, daughter and co-heireſs of Edmund duke of Exeter, left two daughters and co-heireſſes, Agnes, married to ſir Gilbert Talbot, of Graſton, in Worceſterſhire, and Elizabeth, to ſir John Savile, who held the ſame; and ſir John Savile held a moiety in the 19th of Henry VII.

In the 37th of Henry VIII. May 20, Robert Newport, gent. of ——, in Warwickſhire, and Margaret, his wife, one of the daughters and co-heireſſes of ſir Gilbert Talbot, conveyed their right and intereſt herein to ſir John Clere, of Ormeſby, with the manor of Melton, as ſir John Savile's intereſt; and Mary, another of the daughters and co-heireſſes of ſir Gilbert, married Thomas Aſtley, eſq. who conveyed his part to Thomas Wodehouſe, eſq. of Waxham, Auguſt 1, in the 2d of Edward VI. which ſoon after came alſo to the Cleres; and Edward Clere, ſon of ſir John, ſold the whole on June 10, in the 4th and 5th of Philip and Mary, to Thomas Harleſton, yeoman, of Mattiſhall-Bergh. He died in 1558, and gave to two of his daughters and co-heireſſes, Mary, wife of Thomas Peade, and Suſan, wife of William Turner, the manors of Cockfield, &c. but they, by deed, dated in 1573, and the reſt of their ſiſters and co-heireſſes, conveyed it to Robert Tilney, of Eaſt Tuddenham, gent. who dying in 1589, his ſon, Robert, ſucceeded, and died without iſſue in 1602.

Frederick Tilney, eſq. lord of this town, and of Rotherwick, in Hampſhire, dying October 4, 1725, left, by Anne, daughter of George Pitt, eſq. of Stratfield-Say, in Hampſhire, an only daughter and heireſs, Elizabeth, married to the right honorable Wil-

liam lord Craven.——Frederick was member of parliament for Wincheſter, &c.

The Tilneys are deſcended from the eminent family of that name, in Lincolnſhire.

ASTLEY'S, or HOLYWELL'S MANOR. Sir Thomas de Eſtele, or Aſtley, gave name to this lordſhip, in right of Edith, his ſecond wife, third ſiſter and coheireſs of Jeffrey de Melton *alias* Conſtable; by Edith he had Thomas, his firſt ſon, Stephen, the ſecond, &c. Thomas died before his mother, who re-married to Robert de Holywell, and from him this manor is frequently called Holywell.

Stephen de Aſtley had a grant of free-warren in this town in the 14th of Edward I. and he, with ſir John de Cockfield, held one fee of the lord Bardolph. In this family it remained till Thomas Aſtley, eſq. ſold it, in 1548, to Thomas Wodehouſe, eſq. of Waxham, and ſoon after it came to the Cleres.

Edward Clere, ſon of ſir John Clere, ſold it in the reign of Philip and Mary to Thomas Harleſton, with Cockfield's manor, and ſo it came to the Tilneys, and was united to that lordſhip.

Ralph de Beaufoe, at the ſurvey, had a lordſhip, of which ſix free-men were deprived, who held lands, valued at 14s. and 8d.

BERRY, or BARRY'S MANOR. Sir Henry Berry was lord of it in the reign of Edward I. by his marriage with Ann, daughter of ſir Hugh Tuddenham.

Sir

Sir John Berry, lord of this manor, was living in the reign of Henry IV. and his ſon and heir was ſir Edmund Berry, who left a daughter and co-heireſs, Agnes, married to ſir William Paſton, of Paſton, one of the king's juſtices in the reign of Henry VI. and Alice, his other daughter and co-heireſs, married to ſir Thomas Bardolph, of Ellough, in Suffolk.

On a diviſion of ſir Edmund Berry's inheritance, about 1454, this came to Bardolph, in right of Alice, his wife, by whom he had a daughter and ſole heireſs, Elizabeth, married to Thomas Aſlake, eſq. who was living in the 16th of Edward IV.

Thomas, his eldeſt ſon, dying without iſſue, William, his ſecond ſon, inherited it, who left Dorothy, a daughter and heireſs, married to Chriſtopher Playters, eſq. of Somerley, in Suffolk.

This lordſhip was ſold, in the 1ſt of Elizabeth, by William Playters, of Holme, in Smithdon hundred, to Thomas Hoo, of Burnham, in Brothercroſs hundred, who reſided in this town after this.

In the 13th of that reign he died ſeiſed of the manor of Berry, in this town, a water-mill, and lands here; and in the ſaid year the queen, as guardian of Richard Hoo, then a minor, kept her court here.

On April 8, in the 34th of Elizabeth, Richard Hoo, of Scarning, eſq. Thomas Feveryere, of Weaſenham, gent. and Robert Curſon, of Greſſenhall, gent. ſold it to Robert Tilney, gent. and ſo it was united to the other manors above-mentioned.

Aphaw's Manor. In the 41ſt of Henry III. Roger de Alderford granted a meſſuage, and lands, to

William de Apehawe, of which ſir John de Cockfield was capital lord.

Henry Apehawe, of Eaſt Tuddenham, conveyed it in the 19th of Henry VI. to William Paſton, eſq. of Paſton, and his ſon, William, poſſeſſed it in the 10th of Edward IV.

After this, from Savile, &c. it came to Thomas Harleſton, gent. who by his laſt will, in 1558, deviſed the ſcite, &c. of it to Margaret, one of his daughters and co-heireſſes; ſhe married William Forby, gent. whoſe ſon, Hillary Forby, of Mileham, conveyed it in the 36th of Elizabeth to Roger Wotton, gent. and Thomas Cocket, gent.

Thomas granted his moiety of it to Henry Wayte, of King's-Lynn, in the 42d of that queen; and Henry, in the ſaid year, granted it to Roger Wotton. His ſon Roger, in the 14th of Charles I. was a merchant of London; and on October 20, in the 23d of Charles I. ſold it by fine to Francis Tilney, eſq. and ſo was united to Cockfield's manor, &c.

Alan earl of Richmond had, at the ſurvey, a lordſhip in this town; it belonged to his great manor of Coſſey, in the hundred of Forehoe, and conſiſted of ten ſocmen of the ſaid lordſhip, held by earl Guert, king Harold's brother, and ſlain at the battle of Haſtings: it was valued with Coſſey.

The family of de Tuddenham had an intereſt herein. John de Todeham held two fees here, &c. of Matthew de Leyham, he of the lady of the honor of Ongar, in Eſſex, as by a deed without date. The lady here mentioned was moſt likely of the family

mily of de Briton, from which family it came by marriage to the family of de Ripariis, or Rivers.

Starcolf had, at the ſurvey, forty acres of land, &c. valued at 10s. per ann. This Starcolf was a Dane, and had the lordſhip of Barnham-Broom, in Forehoe hundred, in the reign of the Confeſſor, and of this; and for his ſervices to the Conqueror, againſt king Harold, held them at the ſurvey.

In the 17th of Edward II. William Gambon, had lands, &c. in North Tuddenham, &c. John Gambon died ſeiſed of it in 1432, from whom it came to the Sternes.

James I. June 29, in the 16th year of his reign, granted to Richard Tilney, eſq. the leets of this town, and North Tuddenham, Mattiſhall-*cum*-Bergh, and the Eaſt part of Shipdham.

Tod, or Tud, ſays Mr. Parkin, is the name of a river; hence Todwick, in Yorkſhire; Tudworth, in Wiltſhire; Tuddiford, in Hampſhire, &c.

The temporalities of Coxford priory were 4s. 4d. —of Norwich 9s. 2d.—of Pentney 18s.—of Wormegay 7s. 8d.

The priory of St. Olave's of Herringfleet, in Suffolk, was taxed at 20s. 6d. per ann. In 1428 ſir Giles Talbot held them; and in the 1ſt of Edward VI. Henry Jernegan, eſq. granted to ſir John Clere all thoſe meſſuages in Eaſt and North Tuddenham, late belonging to St. Olave's priory, at 10s. 8d. per ann. and after this Thomas Harleſton held them.

The church of Eaſt Tuddenham is dedicated to All Saints, has a large broad nave and chancel, the

nave covered with lead, the chancel tiled, and a ſquare tower embattled, and four bells at the ſouth-weſt end of the nave.

In the reign of Edward I. the prior of Wormegay was patron, granted by fine in the 15th of king John; the rector had a manſe, with forty acres of land, which was valued at twenty-one marks; the prior had alſo a portion of tithe, valued at fifteen marks.—The preſent value of the vicarage is 7l. 6s. ob. On the appropriation and ſettling the vicarage, the rectory was valued at fifteen marks, and the vicarage at ſix marks, in the reign of Edward III. and in 1468, that priory was united to the priory of Pentney.

In the ſouth window of the chancel were the arms of lord Tateſhale; alſo, of lord Bardolph. And in a north window of the church, Calthorpe, and Cockfield.

On the ſouth ſide of the church, under the pulpit, is the effigy of a knight in armour, with a heart between his hands, and a lion at his feet, ſaid to be for ſir Edmund de Berry.

In the church, a grave-ſtone—*In memory of Abraham Baiſt, miniſter of this pariſh full ſixty years, departed Auguſt* 8, 1677, *aged* 86.

On an old ſtone, the effigies of a man and his two wives, in braſs, but no inſcription.——In 1603 here were 148 communicants.

At the diſſolution the appropriated rectory was granted July 1, in the 7th of Edward VI. to William Mingay; and William Necton, of Norwich, ſoon after conveyed it (Auguſt 20, in the 1ſt and 2d

of

of Philip and Mary) to ſir John Clere. His ſon, Edward, ſold it, in the 5th and 6th of Philip and Mary, to Robert Tilney, of this town, and Richard Neve, of Ringland, who had each a moiety.

Richard Neve, rector of North Tuddenham, ſold it, in 1639. to Francis Tilney, eſq. who held the other part, or moiety, and ſo poſſeſſed the whole rectory.

In the 27th of Elizabeth we find the vicar had a penſion of 40s. per ann. paid him by the impropriator.

In 1753 the Rev. Thomas Roger Du Queſne, chancellor of St. David's, was preſented to this vicarage by the right honorable Charles Townſhend, and, Auguſt 22, 1754, it was conſolidated with Honingham.

The village of Eaſt Tuddenham lies on the road between Norwich and Mattiſhall, and ſouth of the brook which runs eaſtward, but the parſonage-houſe is ſituated on the north ſide, and is a fine villa.

NORTH TUDDENHAM, or WEST TUDDENHAM. Ralph de Beaufoe had a lordſhip here when Doomſday-book was made, of which Sigar, a freeman, lord alſo of Hockering, was deprived. This, with Hockering, was half a leuca long, and half a one wide, and paid 5d. halfpenny gelt, and Totdenham (as it is here wrote) was five furlongs long, and four broad, and paid 21d. halfpenny gelt, and there were two churches, endowed with twenty acres. The two churches here mentioned are the two moieties of this church, or rather Beaufoe's right in this church, and in that of Hockering.

From

From Beaufoe it came to Hubert de Ric, from him to the Marſhals, then to the Morleys. John de Shropham, who held it under lord Morley, in the 18th of Edward III. granted by fine to Richard de Bittering, one of the bailiffs of Norwich, the manor of Tuddenham-Faldgate, (as it was ſome time called) with the homages, ſervices, &c.

From the lords Morley it came to the Lovells, ſo to the Parkers, lords Morley.

Edward Parker, lord Morley, ſold it in the reign of queen Elizabeth to ſir Thomas Lovell, of Eaſt Harling; and ſir Charles Lovell was lord in the reign of Charles I.

Thomas Berney, eſq. was in poſſeſſion of it in 1658;—Thomas Berney, eſq. in 1720, &c.

ST. CLERE'S MANOR. In 1436 John Green, citizen of Norwich, had this manor of St. Clere, and Robert Norwich, ſen. of Norwich, in 1444, died lord of it. Richard Arnolds, of Shipdham, eſq. died poſſeſſed of it in January, 1472.

After this it came to the Wottons; William Wotton, eſq. in the 19th of Henry VIII. was lord, and one of the barons of the exchequer, created by patent, July 10, in the 13th of Henry VIII.

John Wotton, eſq. was his ſon, and died at Calais in the ſervice of the king, January 20, in the 38th of Henry VIII. He left iſſue, Ann, daughter and ſole heireſs, who had three huſbands,;——firſt, ſir Thomas Wodehouſe, of Waxham;—ſecond, Henry Repps, eſq. of Mendham;—third, Baſſingb. Gaudy, eſq. and by him only had iſſue.

After

After this Edward Walpole, eſq. of Houghton, in Gallow hundred, was lord. John Gerrard, in 1575, is ſaid to have got from this Edward (whom he cauſed to ſell this manor) about 1000 marks, and to enter into Jeſuitical exerciſe.

On September 27, in the 39th of Elizabeth, ſir Anthony Aſhley, James Huſſy, and John Goodman, eſqrs. ſold it to Calybut Walpole, eſq. brother to Edward; and in the 42d of that queen, William Cobb, of Sandringham, eſq. Edmund Bedingfield, of Aſhill, eſq. and Anthony Bedingfield, of Weſtleton, in Suffolk, eſq. granted, for 350l. paid to them, an annuity of 20l. per ann. out of it to Owen Godfrey, of Hindringham, gent. and John Dix, of Wicmere, by deed, dated March 28.

Thomas Skyppe eſq. died ſeiſed of it in 1632.

The Mandeſtons had alſo an intereſt here: the heirs of Robert de Mandeſton held, in the 11th of Edward I. half a fee in this town, of the honor of Hockering.

The church of Ely had a lorſhip in the time of the Confeſſor, valued at 20s. but at the ſurvey at 12s. and Ralph de Beaufoe held it then of the abbot of Ely.

This was afterwards held of the biſhop of Ely, and was joined to the capital manor here.

In this town Hermerus de Ferrariis had invaded, or ſeized on, thirty-two acres of land, &c. valued at 5s. held by three free-men in king Edward's time, and were under protection at that time, being their abſolute property.

BELHOUSE MANOR. Here was a conſiderable manor in this town, beſides what is already obſerved, belonging to the earl Warren, who by his power had invaded, or ſeized on, the poſſeſſions of four free-men, who had, in king Edward's time, lands valued at 10s.

This lordſhip extended into that of Shipdham, which belonged to this earl, and the moiety of a church, which is mentioned in Doomſday-book, was undoubtedly the church of North Tuddenham, which always belonged to this manor of Belhouſe, and could not be in Shipdham, the patronage of that being in the church of Ely.

In the 13th of king John, Philip Gulafre impleaded Richard de Belhouſe for two carucates of land here, of which William Gulafre, his great grandfather, was ſeiſed in the time of Henry I. Richard held it in right of his wife, Maud, one of the daughters and co-heireſſes of John Pouchard, ſon and heir of ſir William Pouchard.

In the 24th of Henry III. the lady Oliva, widow of John de Mareſchall, lady of Hockering, and of this town, granted by fine the fiſhery at Witford to Maud de Belhouſe.

Sir Richard de Belhouſe was a commiſſioner to enquire after tenures, &c. in the third of Edward I. and Thomas de Belhouſe, in the 9th of that king, held the manor of Tuddenham-Faldgate by the ſervice of 20s. per ann. and half a fee. Here was then a capital meſſuage, &c. valued at 11l. 17s. 2d. per ann.

In the 36th of Edward III. ſir Richard Belhouſe died, and left three daughters and co-heireſſes; Emme, married

married to ſir Peter L'Eſtrange, lord of Franſham *Parva*; Maud, to William Bozun, of Whiſſonſet, eſq. and Joan, to James de Holveſton; though ſome records ſay, that Joan, or one of theſe daughters and co-heireſſes, was married to —— Oldhall, by whom ſhe had Edmund, father of ſir William Oldhall, who preſented to this church in 1446, as lord of ſome part of Belhouſe manor, which proves a relation to ſir Richard Belhouſe.

By an indenture, dated in the 49th of Edward III. between the prior of Pentney and the convent, on the one part, John Bozun, ſon and heir of William, it appears that John had given a 40l. bond to the prior (but to be void if the ſaid prior and his ſucceſſors ſhould enjoy the manor of Bodney) and to Robert Trayle, &c. and their heirs, the manor of Belhouſe-hall, in North Tuddenham, with the moiety of the advowſon, and not be impleaded thereof by John, or his heirs.

In the ſaid year ſir Peter Le'Strange, and James de Holveſton, conveyed to Robert Trayle, &c. this manor, with a moiety of the advowſon of the church, and they, as truſtees, ſettled it on the ſaid priory.

In the 3d of Henry IV. the prior held it by half a fee of lord Morley.

On the diſſolution of the ſaid priory it came to the crown, and was granted on July 21, in the 5th of Elizabeth, to Humphrey Shelton, and Ed. Hunt; after this it was in lord Morley, who preſented in 1570; and in 1582 Edward lord Morley had a *præcipe* to deliver it to Thomas Newman, and George Aglionby, with the advowſon of the church.

In

In 1621 Thomas Skipp, eſq. was lord and patron. This family lived at Worſtead in the reign of Henry VII. John Skipp, D. D. biſhop of Hereford in the time of Henry VIII. was probably born there.

In this family it continued till John Skipp, gent. ſold this lordſhip to Henry Repinhall, attorney, at Aylſham, from whom it came to —— Evans, the preſent lord.—*Parkin.*

The temporalities of Norwich priory were 10d. of Wormegay 40d. of Caſtle Acre 13s. 4d. of St. Olave's of Herringfleet 2s. 11d.

The church is a rectory, dedicated to St. Mary, and conſiſted of two medieties, one in the patronage of Beaufoe's manor, the other of that of Belhouſe. In the reign of Edward I. ——— Marſhall was patron, and the rector of that mediety had then a manſe and twenty acres, and ſir Richard Belhouſe was patron of the other; the rector of that had a manſe and thirty acres. Each mediety was valued at twelve marks. The prior of Rumburgh had a portion of tithe valued at two marks. The preſent value of both the medieties, being united, is 10l. 5s. 3d. halfpenny.

The church is a ſingle pile, without any aile, covered with lead, and has a ſquare tower, with one bell; the chancel is covered with tiles.

Near the font is a marble grave-ſtone,—*In memory of Peter Forby, gent. who died April* 14, 1676, *aged* 28.

On a grave-ſtone, with a braſs plate,—*Hic jaciunt corpora Thomæ Howlet, et Marie uxor. is ob.* 10 *die Oct.* 1607, *illa* 27 *Auguſti*, 1612.

A marble

A marble grave-ſtone,—*In memory of Thomas Whale, gent. and Dorothy, his wife; he departed April* 7, 1661, *about* 60; *ſhe the* 16*th of Dec.* 1658, *aged* 54.

In a window on the north ſide of the church,—Wotton impaling Southwell; the arms of William Wotton, baron of the Exchequer, and his wife; and in a window on the ſouth ſide, Wotton impaling Brampton.

On a grave-ſtone the arms of Neve;—*Sarah le Neve vidua, nuper uxor Roberti le Neve, clerici, ſacræ theologiæ baccalauri, hic jacet ſepulta, Januarij* 6, *Ao. Dni.* 1637.

Another, with the arms of le Neve,—*In memory of Francis Neve, who died Apr.* 13, 1656.

On the ſouth ſide of the communion-table is an altar tomb of marble, &c. with three ſhields, Skipp impaling Rant, &c. to Katherine, wife of Thomas Skipp, of North Tuddenham, in Norfolk, eſq. one of the gentlemen of his majeſty's privy chamber; ſhe expired anno Dni. 1629, aged 31.

On the ſouth ſide of the eaſt window is the buſt of a man, with a long beard, and a ruff, and the arms of Skipp under it,——*Tibi et tuis.*——No name, but ſome verſes, ſetting forth he was a perſon devoted to ſtudy, and there is no date.

In 1603 the rector returned 152 communicants, and Theodore Goodwyn, eſq. to be patron.

Cuthbert Norris, rector in 1598, gave a little houſe in the town, and an acre and half of ground, for

for the poor; and John Smith, rector in 1670, gave a houſe for the clerk of the pariſh.

In 1750 the Rev. Thomas Shelford was preſented to this rectory by Leonard Shelford.

WESTFIELD, or WESTFELDA, as it is wrote in Doomſday-book. Alan earl of Richmond was lord of this town, of which the church of Ely was deprived, who held it in the time of the Confeſſor, and Facion was enfeoffed of it by that earl, valued then at 60s. at the ſurvey at 40s. it was ſix furlongs long, ſix broad, and paid 6d. gelt. How long Facion, or his deſcendents, held it, does not appear.

In the 8th of Edward I. John le Breton held it by the fourth part of a fee, and paid 10s. per annum caſtle-guard to Richmond; it was valued at 100s. per ann. and in the 21ſt of that king ſir Philip le Breton held it.

Sir Edmund de Hederſet was lord in the 20th of Edward III. John duke of Bedford and of Richmond was the capital lord in the 14th of Henry VI. and in the 35th of that king Sir Thomas Kerdeſton held it.

The prior of the houſe of Salutation of the Mother of God, of the Carthuſians in London, had alſo an intereſt herein, and a charter for the manor of Weſtfield, and that of Middleton Cheney, in Northamptonſhire, in the 1ſt year of Richard II.

On the diſſolution of the Charter-houſe it came to the crown, and was granted in the 36th of Henry VIII. Feb. 26, to ſir Thomas Wrotteſly, and ſir Richard Southwell, who held it in his own right in the

38th

38th of that king, and paid a fee-farm rent for it of 25s. 4d. per ann. to the crown.

From the Southwells it came to the Cranes, and Richard Crane, eſq. brother and heir of ſir William Crane, knt. held it in 1642, then a baronet; William Crane, eſq. inherited it, who about 1662 ſettled it, with Mary, his wife, on Robert Clayton, eſq. afterwards a knight, and lord mayor of London; and ſir William Clayton inherited it in 1740: William Clayton, eſq. of Harleyford, in Bucks, is the preſent lord and patron.

The church is a rectory, dedicated to St. Andrew, and is a ſingle long pile, covered with lead; the chancel is down, and has a ſquare tower, with two bells. The preſent value is 7l. 16s. 8d. the ancient value 5l.

In a ſouth window the arms of Beckham; and in a north window Ufford.

Sir John de Breton was lord and patron in the reign of Edward I. when the rector had a manſe and fifteen acres of land.

In 1603 the rector returned ſixty-five communicants here.—The temporalities of the priory of Weſtacre were 5s. 11d.

In 1733 this rectory was conſolidated with Whinbergh; and in 1753 William Clayton, eſq. preſented the Rev. George Thomas.

WHINBERGH, or WHINBURGH, wrote Wineb'ga in Doomſday-book. Hermerus de Ferrariis was lord

of this town by grant of the Conqueror, on the expulſion of Turchetel, who poſſeſſed it in the reign of king Edward, when it had a church endowed with ſix acres, valued with Garveſton at 6l. but at the ſurvey at 7l. and was meaſured with that town, and joined in payment of the gelt.

Hermerus had alſo other lands here, valued at 16s. &c. but after at 8s.

From Hermerus, who was lord of Wormegay, it came to the lords Bardolph, lords of the honor of Wormegay; and in the 18th of king John, Hubert de Burgo, chief juſtice of England, had that king's protection for this manor, and that of Stow-Bardolph, granted him at Lynn, on October 9. He married Beatrix, the widow of Dodo Bardolph, lord of it in her right.

In the 38th year of Henry III. William lord Bardolph impleaded Thomas le Parker, of Saham, &c. for entering his park, and taking his beaſts, and for fiſhing in his ponds here, and taking his fiſh; the ſheriff returned that it was in the liberty of the biſhop of Ely, and therefore a *non omittas* was awarded. In the ſaid year William had free-warren in his demeſne land, and his park is ſaid to contain five hundred acres of land.

In the 4th of Edward I. the rent of aſſize of the free-tenants was 25s. 9d. that of the villains 13l. 14s. 3d. 140 hens, and 700 eggs.

There was a meſſuage with eighty-five acres of land, thirteen of meadow and paſture, with a park, and a windmill, and paid 2s. per ann. to the biſhop of Ely's manor of Shipdham.

In

In the 15th of Edward I. lord Bardolph claimed view of frank-pledge, aſſize of bread and beer, a weekly market on Thurſday, and a fair yearly.

After this he claimed a grant for a market on Wedneſday, and a fair on the eve and day of St. Margaret, and the day after, which we ſuppoſe ſet aſide the former.

In the 45th of Edward III. here was a water-mill, with a pool, called Le-Ley, and a fiſhery, called Le-Mote.

This lordſhip being a member of the honor of Wormegay, had always the ſame lords, till in the 4th of Henry VIII. June 23, it was granted with the advowſon of the church, late Francis lord Lovell's, to John Carr, eſq. who conveyed it in the ſaid year to John and Ralph Berney, &c.

After this it came to ſir Richard Southwell, knt. who poſſeſſed it in 1544; and it was by them conveyed to the Cranes, of Wood-Riſing; then to the Claytons, about 1662, and William Clayton, eſq. is lord and patron.

The town gave name to the family of de Whinburgh, or de Quinbergh; Henry Whinburgh, gent. by his will, dated the 31ſt of October, 1544, had lands in this town, Yaxham, Garveſton, Reymerſton, and Thuxton; and John Whinburgh, gent. of Norfolk, was lord of Benacre, in Suffolk, in 1577.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and was valued at eleven marks; the preſent value is 6l. 18s. 6d. ob.

In the reign of Edward I. the rector had a manſe and thirty acres of land.

The rector in 1603 returned ſixty-three communicants to be in this pariſh.

The temporalities of the priory of Wymondham were 12s. 6d. ob.

In the church were the arms of Whinburgh, and Malherbe.

In 1753 the Rev. George Thomas was preſented to this rectory (conſolidated with Weſtfield in 1733) by William Clayton, eſq. of Harleyford, in Bucks, and Saham-Tony, in Wayland.

WOOD-RISING, ſo called to diſtinguiſh it from Caſtle-Riſing, near Lynn, but at the ſurvey occurs by the name of Riſing only, and takes its name as ſeated on watry meadows, William earl Warren had a grant of it on the expulſion of Alveva, a Saxon gentlewoman, who held it in king Edward's reign, with Feltwell, Wilton, Grimſton, &c. all which the ſaid earl obtained of the grant of the Conqueror: this lordſhip was then valued at 40s. at the ſurvey at 60s. it was eight furlongs long, ſix broad, and paid 15d. gelt.

This town gave name to a family who were lords of it, and early enfeoffed under the earl Warren.

In the 12th of Henry III. John de Riſing conveyed by fine, to Roger de Riſing, a moiety of this lordſhip.

Roger

Roger de Wood-Riſing granted in the 14th of Edward I. to John de Reedham, a meſſuage, with lands here.

In the 9th of Edward II. William de Riſing was returned to have a lordſhip; and in the 18th of Edward III. John de Enepol, &c. ſold their right in this lordſhip to William de Witchingham; and the ſaid William had conveyed to him, by fine, in the 32d of that king, the eighth part of the manor of Wood-Riſing, by others.

It is probable that this William de Witchingham, who was lord of Witchingham, a judge, and a knight, married an heireſs of Roger, or William de Riſing.

In the 2d year of Henry VI. Nicholas de Witchingham, eſq. was lord.

About the beginning of the reign of Edward IV. it came to Richard Southwell, eſq. by the marriage of Amy, one of the daughters and coheireſſes of ſir Edmund Witchingham, lord of this manor. Richard was eſcheator of Norfolk and Suffolk in the 38th of Henry VI. In the 4th of Edward IV. he was made by letters patent marſhal of the Exchequer; and in the ſaid year had a grant of twenty marks per ann. on the aulnage of Suffolk, and is ſtiled late ſervant to our well beloved couſin, John duke of Norfolk. This very honorable family took their name from the ancient town of Southwell, in Nottinghamſhire.

John Southwell, eſq. of Felix-hall, in Eſſex, grandfather of the aforeſaid Richard, in the 29th of Henry VI. was member of parliament for Lewes, in Suſſex, and lived at Barham-hall, in Suffolk.

Robert, his ſon, was alſo lord of Barham-hall, in Suffolk, and married Cecilia, daughter of Thomas Sharington, eſq. of Cranworth, in this hundred, and is buried in the church of Barham, with this inſcription on his grave-ſtone:—*Robert Southwell, eſq. apprentice of the law, and juſtice of the peace, who died September* 27, 1514.

He was ſucceeded by Richard Southwell, eſq. of Wood-Riſing, whoſe eldeſt ſon, ſir Robert, died without iſſue: he was made ſeneſchal of all the honors and manors forfeited to the king by Edmund De-la-Pole, in Norfolk and Suffolk, or by his mother, the ducheſs of Suffolk, in the 19th of Henry VII. and in the following year, by patent, chief butler of England.

In the 4th of Henry VIII. he was made ſuperviſor of the king's lands and caſtles, by act of parliament, and receiver-general of them: he died March 31, in the 6th of Henry VIII. ſeiſed of this manor, held of the Duchy of Lancaſter, and left Richard, ſon of his brother Francis, his heir.

Francis Southwell, eſq. brother to ſir Robert, was auditor of the Exchequer, and had two ſons, ſir Richard, and ſir Robert Southwell.

Sir Richard, his eldeſt ſon, was a great favorite of Henry VIII. one of the viſitors appointed by him of the monaſteries in Norfork, on their ſuppreſſion; one of the privy council to that king, Edward VI. and queen Mary, maſter of the ordnance, and armory, and high ſteward of the Duchy of Lancaſhire.

In the reign of queen Mary he made a remarkable ſpeech (1554) in the Houſe of Lords, on that queen's being

being big with-child, and an act of parliament thereon paſſed about the government of the realm, and the perſon of the child, in caſe of that queen's deceaſe.

It appears by the account of Ambroſe Jermyn, eſq. in the 37th of Henry VIII. that he was lord of the following manors in Norfolk: Wood-Riſing, Cranworth, Butler's, or Botetourt's, in Letton; Whinbergh *cum membris*, Weſtfield, Scoulton, Carbroke, Woodhall, Carbroke *Magna*, or the preceptory manor, with the impropriate rectory, &c. Saham-Tony, Inſoken, and Outſoken, Creſſingham *Parva*, Tottington, Campſey, and Mortimer's, Thexton, Morton *cum* Ringland, Kipton, in Weaſenham, Weſt Rudham, Toſts, Bircham, Burnham, Lexham's, Geyton, Brancaſter, Burnham-Thorpe, *alias* Wymondham's, Horſham, and Walſoken-Pipenhoe.

He married, firſt, Thomaſine, daughter of ſir Robert Darcy, knt. of Danbury, in Eſſex, by whom he had an only daughter, Elizabeth, married to George Heneage, eſq. his ſecond wife was Mary, daughter of Thomas Darcy, of Danbury aforeſaid, by whom he had Richard Darcy, *alias* Southwell, eſq. of Horſham St. Faith's, and Thomas Darcy, *alias* Southwell, eſq. of Morton, but they being born in the time of his firſt lady, when Mary (whom he afterwards married) was his miſtreſs, were illegitimate*.

Great part of his inheritance, with this lordſhip, came to his nephew, Thomas Southwell, ſon of ſir Robert Southwell, by Margaret, his wife, daughter and ſole heireſs of ſir Thomas Neville, fourth ſon of George lord Abergavenny.

* See ſir Henry Spelman's Hiſtory of Sacrilege.

Sir Richard built here a large and ſplendid ſeat, with a park adjoining, where queen Elizabeth was entertained in 1578.

Sir Robert Southwell, younger brother of ſir Richard aforeſaid, was maſter of the rolls, July 1, in the 33d of Henry VIII. lived at Mereworth, in Kent, and was alſo chancellor of the court of augmentations, and high ſheriff of Kent, in the reign of queen Mary. Thomas Southwell, eſq. his ſon and heir, inherited this manor, as legal heir to his uncle, ſir Richard, and married three wives; by one of which he left ſir Robert Southwell, rear-admiral in the famous engagement with the Spaniſh fleet in 1588. He married the lady Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Howard, earl of Effingham, lord high admiral of England.

At his death, October 12, 1599, ſir Thomas was his ſon and heir; he died in 1643, having waſted moſt of his eſtate, and ſold this lordſhip to ſir Francis Crane: he left four daughters and coheireſſes to the remainder.

In the 2d of James I. the rent of aſſiſe of this manor was 12l. 15s. 7d. ob. of the demeſne land 93l. 3s. 6d. perquiſites of court 58s. 8d. The whole rent was 191l. 12s. 3d. ob.

Sir Francis Crane, knt. who purchaſed this lordſhip of ſir Thomas Southwell, was chancellor of the garter, and brought into England the manufacture of curious tapeſtry, ſettled at Mortlack, in Surrey; gave 500l. to the re-building of St. Paul's church, in London; and added four poor knights to the number of thoſe in Windſor-caſtle, with 40l. per ann. to each of them: he died at Paris, June 6, 1636, lord of

of this manor, and was ſucceeded by Richard Crane, eſq. his brother, created baronet March 20, 1642: he lived here, and died in 1645.

By Mary, daughter of a Mr. Bond, his adopted heir and niece, it came to William Crane, eſq. ſon of John Crane, of Loughton, in Buckinghamſhire, clerk of the kitchen to James I. and Charles I.

About the year 1638 he conveyed this lordſhip to Gabriel Bedell, citizen and ſtationer, of London, executor of John Bedell, eſq. of London; and Edward Bedell, eſq. his nephew, was lord in 1682, and preſented to this church.

In Auguſt, 1715, George Bedell, eſq. died lord, and unmarried, and left two ſiſters and co-heireſſes, Mrs. Bringloe, and Mrs. Burgeſs, who ſold this lordſhip to Pinkney Weyland, eſq. of London; and John Weyland, eſq. is lord and patron.

The temporalities of the priory of Lewes were 41s. —of Wendling abbey 14s.—of Flitcham priory 27s. 3d.—of the monks of Thetford 12s.

Reedham's Manor. John de Reedham had a lordſhip in the 14th of Edward I. and John de Reedham was returned to be lord in the 9th of Edward II. Afterwards it was united to Wood-Riſing manor.—Sir Guy de Botetourt's lordſhip of Cranworth alſo extended herein, and he was returned as lord in the 9th of Edward II.

Reedham's probably was what the king held at the ſurvey, and in Oeſeley lands, &c. valued in Hingham, and after united to Wood-Riſing manor.

The

The church of Wood-Riſing is dedicated to St. Nicholas. In the reign of Edward I. the rector had a manſe, with two acres, and it was valued at twelve marks.

William, ſecond earl Warren, granted the patronage of it to the priory of Lewes, and a portion of tithe belonged to it, valued at 10s. per ann.

The preſent value of this rectory is 4l. 18s. 3d. and is diſcharged from firſt-fruits and tenths.

Roger de Wood-Riſing ſued the prior of Lewes in the 8th of Edward I. for the right of patronage; the prior pleaded that Roger, grandfather of the aforeſaid Roger, gave it by deed to the priory.

In the 29th of Henry VIII. Robert the prior, &c. of Lewes, granted the patronage by fine to that king, who in the ſaid year, December 22, gave it to the Duke of Norfolk.

Chriſtopher Sutton, A. M. prebend of Weſtminſter, and rector here, returned forty communicants in 1603.

In the chancel, a grave-ſtone—*In memory of ſir Francis Crane*, with his arms on a wall.

On another,—*In memory of Robert, eldeſt ſon and heir of Robert Southwell, knight, by Elizabeth, eldeſt daughter of Charles lord Howard, lord-admiral of England, who died September* 23, 1586.

Alſo an ancient altar monument of a warrior, in alabaſter, deprived now of its braſſes, &c.

In

In 1750 the Rev. Colby Bullock was preſented to this rectory by Mrs. Elizabeth Bringloe, and others, *p. j.*

YAXHAM, in Doomſday-book is wrote Iacheſham, taking its name from its being near to a moraſs, or bog, as Yaxley, in Suffolk, and Huntingdonſhire. Roger Bigot, anceſtor of the earls of Norfolk, had a grant of a lordſhip here from the Conqueror, with thirty acres of land, of which Aldin, a prieſt, and a free-man, was deprived. It was then valued at 10s. per ann. and was ſeven furlongs long, and five broad, and paid 23d. gelt. Ralph, ſon of Walter, held it under Bigot.

Roger Bigot alſo held ſoon after the conqueſt, of the abbot of Ely, lands, &c. but at the ſurvey he held this of the king, and it was then valued at 20s. ſo that it appears both the Conqueror and Roger made no ſcruple of robbing the church of their poſſeſſions.

The family de Curzun, or Curſon, were early enfeoffed of this lordſhip, which Ralph de Curzon was lord of in the 1ſt of king John, and held of the earl of Norfolk.

William Gerberge was lord in the 3d of Henry IV. John Curſon is ſaid to have held a ſecond part of it in the 2d of Henry VI. and in the 11th of Henry VI. Henry Sturmer, and John Docking, had an intereſt in it.

In the 15th of that king, John Crane, eſq, of Wood-norton, conveyed to ſir William Oldhall a moiety of the manor of Ilney, and two parts of the manor of Yaxham.

Sir

Sir John Curſon, of Billingford, by his laſt will, dated January 10, in the 11th of Edward IV. ordered his truſtees, if they ſhould recover his right in the 3d part of the manor of Yaxham, to ſettle it on Edward, his youngeſt ſon.

This lordſhip of Yaxham was about this time divided into four parts, or manors;—firſt, Curſon's, ſold to Henry Sturmer, whoſe wife ſold it to John Haſtings, and ſir John Curſon claimed a right herein;—ſecond, Gerberge's manor, of which Hugh Gerberge was lord; this was divided into two parts, Crane held one, and ſold it to Henry Sturmer, from whom it came to Haſtings, and John Docking had the other part, who ſold it to William Paſton, eſq. —third, Ilney's manor; this was alſo divided into two parts, Crane had one, and ſold it to Sturmer, and he to Haſtings, and John Docking had the other part, who ſold it to Paſton.

John Haſtings, eſq. ſon and heir of ſir Edward, John Heydon, William Stather, &c. were querents in a fine, and Roger Drury, and Ann, his wife, deforcients, of the manors of Yaxham, Curſon, Gerberge, and Ilney, conveyed to Stather in the 16th of Edward IV. from the heirs of Ann; ſhe was daughter and heireſs of Henry Sturmer, and had alſo Southwell manor, in Geyſt, and that of Beſthorpe, of her own inheritance.

About 1640 Mr. Hardy was lord: his ſon, the Rev. Mr. Hardy, rector of Elſing, inherited it, and ſold it to William Murrall, yeoman, of Sparham, lord of it in 1713.

In

In the reign of Philip and Mary it paid 7s. per ann. to the ſee of Norwich, formerly due to the penitentiary of the abbey of St. Bennet's of Holme.

Hermerus de Ferrariis had four ſocmen which belonged to his predeceſſor, with land, &c. in king Edward's reign, then valued at 4s. at the ſurvey at 2s.

Hermerus was anceſtor of the lords Bardolph, barons of Wormegay; and in the 38th of Henry III. lord Bardolph had a grant of free-warren.

In the 9th of Edward II. Robert Atte-Haghe held here, in Shipdham, and Letton, &c. a quarter of a fee, and a moiety of the rode-fee, of the honor of Wormegay, and in the 5th of Henry VI. Robert Fiſhpoole held the ſame.

In the 38th of Henry VIII. ſir Richard Southwell held it, and ſo came to the Cranes and Claytons.

Alan earl of Richmond had two ſocmen, with land, &c. belonging to his manor of Coſſey, under which it was valued, of which earl Guert was lord in king Edward's time.

The lord of Coſſey held it in the 41ſt of Henry III. and the Bardolphs refuſed to pay ſuit of court to the lord of the hundred. The temporalities of Wendling abbey were 3s.

The church of Yaxham is dedicated to St. Peter. William de Wendling was patron of it in the reign of Edward I. and about the ſame time ſir Robert de Curſon, the rector, had a manſe with forty acres of land, which was valued at twenty-two marks.—The preſent

preſent value is 10l. 9d. ob. and pays firſt fruits and tenths.

In 1585 Thomas Hogan, eſq. was patron; and in 1603 the rector returned 180 communicants.

The church has a nave, north and ſouth aile covered with lead, and a chancel tiled: at the weſt end of the nave is a round tower, with five bells. In a ſouth window of the chancel are the arms of Wendling abbey; and in the windows of the ſouth aile, Haſtings, and Follot.

In the 1ſt year of king John, William earl Warren granted by fine the advowſon to Ralph de Curſon, and Robert de Curſon in the 43d of Henry III. conveyed it to William de Wendling, who granted it to the priory of Wendling.

In 1768 the Rev. Grigſon Heyhoe was preſented to this rectory on his own petition.





THE HISTORY OF NORFOLK.

Hundred of SHROPHAM,

WROTE in Doomſday-book Serepham, is bounded on the eaſt by Depwade, on the north by Wayland and Forehoe, on the weſt by Grimſhoe, and on the ſouth by Guiltcroſs, from which it is parted by the rivulet that runs from Quidenham-Meer into the little Ouſe, at Thetford, by the Atlas called *Thet*, without any reaſon; for we do not find it ſo named in any evidence whatever. This is a large hundred, (or half hundred, as it is ſometimes called,) the fee of which from the Confeſſor's time to the latter end of Henry VI. conſtantly attended the Caſtle manor of Buckenham, being ſometimes whole, and ſometimes divided, as that was, but then it was

wholly in William De-la-Pole, marquis and earl of Suffolk, who levied a fine of it between himſelf and his truſtees. It was in John De-la-Pole, earl of Lincoln, who died in 1487; after in Edmund De-la-Pole, earl of Suffolk, who was beheaded for treaſon in 1513, and ſo it became forfeited to the crown; immediately after it was granted to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, and his heirs, who about 1545 exchang'd it for other lands with the crown, in which it continued ſome time. In 1573 the queen lett it to Edward Fludd, gent. for twenty-one years, at 10l. a year, who ſurrendered his letters patent to be cancelled in 1584; and the queen for 15l. fine lett it to Thomas Lovel, gent. for twenty-one years. In 1622 it was granted by letters patent to ſir George Marſhall, knt. Robert Causfield, eſq. and their heirs in fee, to be held by the fee-farm rent of 10l. a year. In 1628 Mr. Robert Tichbourne, and Mr. Andrew Palmer. held it in truſt, with others, for Robert Hethe, ſerjeant at law, who jointly with his truſtees, in 1634, ſold it to Robert Wilton, eſq. in whoſe family it continued till Nicholas Wilton, of Wilby, eſq. ſold it to Henry Kedington, eſq. of Hockham, who ſold it to Ralph Hare, eſq. of Hargham; and Hugh Hare, eſq. of Hargham, the heir of that family, is now lord, who holds it by the aforeſaid yearly fee-farm rent. The ancient rent that it paid before the forfeiture was only half a mark; the leets of the whole hundred belong to it, with all ſuperior liberties, except thoſe of Eccles, Hockham-Magna, and Old Buckenham. All the towns are in Rockland deanry, (which is made up of this and Guiltcroſs hundred) except Thetford, which, though it is in this hundred, we look upon as ſingle, it being a deanry of itſelf, belonging to the archdeaconry of Norwich, as this doth to the archdeaconry of Norfolk.

This

This hundred paid for every tenth 100l. 14s. 4d. out of which the deductions came to 7l. 1s. ſo that the king received clear 93l. 13s. 4d.

In the Conqueror's time the whole hundred belonged to the king, of whom Godric farmed it, and and paid 40d. rent.

In 1285 the king brought an action for this hundred againſt Robert de Tateſhale, to know what right he had in it, who anſwered, that he held it jointly with Roger de Montealt, Margaret Baſſet, John le Strange, Maud de Erdington, Mabell de Suthley, and Richard Fitz-Alan, a minor, of the inheritance of Hugh de Albany, who died ſeiſed of it; and being called upon in the ſame manner in relation to his market at Attleburgh, and market, fair, and privileges in Wilby, and New Buckenham, he returned the ſame anſwer.

In this hundred are the following towns, to which we add the number of votes polled by freeholders reſident in each at the laſt conteſted election, March 23, 1768, for knights of the ſhire:

	W.	de G.	A.	C.
Attleburgh -	27	27	1	1
Beſthorpe - -	1	1	6	6
Brettenham -	0	0	1	1
Bridgham - -	1	3	2	2
Buckenham, New and Old, -	41	37	18	14
Eccles - -	1	1	0	0
Ellingham, Great	23	26	6	3
Hargham - -	1	1	0	0
Hockham - -	0	0	0	0
Illington - -	0	0	0	0

Kilverſton -	0	0	0	0
Harling - -	3	3	0	0
Rockland All Saints, and St. Andrew, -	7	13	7	1
Roudham - -	0	0	0	0
Shropham - -	8	7	1	0
Snetterton -	1	2	0	1
Thetford - -	25	26	35	29
Wretham, Eaſt and Weſt, -	3	3	0	0
Wilby - -	3	3	1	1
Total	145	153	78	59

This hundred is in length from Beſthorpe to Thetford about thirteen miles, and ten in width from Buckenham to Weſt Wretham. It is a fine encloſed country northwards, but is open and very barren to the ſouthward. It has one whole ſtage of the great poſt road from Norwich to London, and many parts of this county are beautifully planted with fir and other wood. It pays to the general rate of the county 20l. 8s. 3d. to a ſix-hundred pound levy, and has the following ſeats and principal houſes:

Buckenham St. Andrew,	Francis Head, eſq.
Eccles,	William Woodley, eſq.
Hargham,	Hugh Hare, eſq.
Kilverſton,	Charles Wright, eſq.
Shropham,	John Barker, eſq.
Wretham, Weſt,	William Colhoun, eſq.
Wretham, Eaſt,	William Grigſon, eſq.

ATTLEBURGH,

ATTLEBURGH, or ATTLEBOROUGH. This place, without doubt, hath been very famous in early times, as all authors that ſpeak of it unanimouſly agree: If we may believe John Brame, a monk of Thetford, whoſe hiſtory is extant in Bennet college library, at Cambridge, it was ſome time not only a city, but the metropolis of all Norfolk, founded by Atlinge, then king of that province, in order to oppoſe Rond, king of Thetford, and by him fortified with a ditch, wall, four gates, and four towers; and from this Atlinge he would have it called Atlinge's-Burgh, or Attleburgh; but as to the part of its towers, and gates, we cannot be perſuaded to credit it, there being no appearance or remains of any ſuch walls, gates, or towers, as he ſpeaks of in this town, ſome parts of which, in all likelihood, would have remained, as well as thoſe of other buildings, far older than theſe, it being unlikely that in the Daniſh incurſions they could have time, or materials, to rear them up. Mr. le Neve imagines that it was called Ethelingburgh, becauſe it might belong in the time of the Saxons to ſome eminent nobleman of that name, who was nearly related to the Saxon kings, and had his reſidence here, being induced to think thus, becauſe this part belonged to the crown till the Conqueror's time. But neitheir of theſe etymologies ſeem right, and therefore, if we may have liberty of conjecture, we think the preſent name ſhews its ſignification, which it will be proper to obſerve hath ſuffered but little change from the time of the Confeſſor to this day. Attleburc, Burg, or Burgh, is the ſame, and it being certain that the termination *burgh*, or *borough*, (as we now pronounce it,) always ſignifies a caſtle, fort, or ſuch like, as the learned Spelman, in his Icenia, juſtly obſerves, we may conclude that it was called At-le-Burgh, or the town at the Burgh, or Burgh-Town, from its being ſituated by an ancient burgh,

or

or fortification, and from its being larger, and of more repute at that time than its neighbours. That this burgh was a fortification of hills only is plain, becauſe there are no other remains, and therefore moſt likely was made at the time when the Danes ravaged this part of the country, and ſo far the old monk may be right, that when they got poſſeſſion of Thetford it is not unlikely the inhabitants of the country might aſſemble, and fortify themſelves here, in oppoſition to their enemies, who had done the ſame there; and indeed we think that this burgh was the head of the hundred till the neighbouring caſtle of Buckenham was built, after the removal of the chief of the inhabitants from it, to the preſent ſituation of the town, which is far better than its old one at the Burgh. And as a further confirmation, the Burgh is not only now called Burgh, or Burrough-Street, but in Doomſday-book that is called Attelburc, and the preſent town is *the Other Atleburc;* and that the firſt caſtle at Buckenham had its riſe upon the dereliction of this burgh is likely, becauſe the whole of this Attleburgh at firſt was not a manor held of the caſtle, but an actual part of the Caſtle-Manor, called the part at the Plaſhes, afterwards Plaſſet's, and had two parts, or the whole of the advowſon, belonging to Plaſſet's part, appendant to it, that is, one half to the part of Plaſſet's manor, which contained great part of Beſthorpe, and the other part as belonging to this, the other part, or third part, belonging to the manor of the other Attleburgh, where the church was built. It ſeems the removal at firſt might be occaſioned by the lowneſs and moiſtneſs of the ſituation, and if ſo, the aforeſaid monk in his tranſlation might only miſtake the name of the place for a perſon, viz. At-l'ing-Burgh, or the Burgh at the *Ing*, or Watery-Place, (or At Le Plats, or Plaſhes, as it was called by the Normans) for Atling's-Burgh, or the Burgh of Atling;

for

for he tells us, his hiſtory is only copied from two ancient books of the ſame ſort, one of which was in old French, and the other in Engliſh, both of which he compared, and made his Latin tranſlation by: and indeed, to do him juſtice, (though we are ſenſible the accounts of things in it do ſeem at firſt entire fables) yet upon examination ſeveral of them, if not all, are in ſome meaſure true, and the hiſtories of the many battles in this part of the country, and eſpecially in Guiltcroſs, Grimſhoe, this, and the adjacent hundreds, might be the excurſions of the Danes, from their great rendezvous at Thetford, recorded by ſomebody near hand at that time, and ſo preſerved in the neighbourhood, and afterwards given to that monaſtery. The many *tumili* in theſe hundreds ſhew us that there were ſuch excurſions; and it is plain that this hiſtory could not be of ſuch light eſteem as we think it, becauſe the Normans after the conqueſt would not have thought it worth their while to have tranſlated it into their language, and though we meet with the names of many kings, as they are called, which were never heard of but in this book, we look upon it that that there might be ſuch perſons, who were heads and leaders of thoſe bands, and as ſuch called kings of thoſe places where theſe burghs, or chief rendezvous were, and that becauſe their names are pure Saxon, or Daniſh; and what induces us to think that the monk was not the inventer of theſe accounts (as ſome would intimate) is, becauſe in the ſame book, where he deſcends ſo low as to treat of the affairs of his own monaſtery, juſt before, and in his own time, he is a faithful hiſtorian, and is ſo far from giving us any fables of his own invention, that he tells us, whenever he adds any thing of the *legend* ſort, where he had what he recites, ſo that we muſt own we are apt to think he had two copies of the hiſtory, as he aſ-

ſerts,

ſerts, and that there is more of reality in it than at firſt ſight we may imagine; for we find, agreeable to the aſſertion of its being an ancient city, that "In the "year 841. Edmund, ſon of Alkmund king of "Saxony, was born at Nuremburg, in Saxony, of "queen Siwara; and ſoon after it happened that "Offa king of the Eaſt-Angles, who had no heir, "paſſed through Saxony in his journey to the Holy-"Land, where he went in pilgrimage, to beſeech "God to give him an heir, and calling upon his "couſin Alkmund, he adopted Edmund, his ſon, "his heir, and then haſtened to Jeruſalem, where "having performed his vows, he returned; but on "his return, at a place called St. George's-Arm, he "was taken violently ill, upon which he imme-"diately ſent for his council, appointed Edmund "his ſucceſſor, and ſent him his ring, which he re-"ceived from the biſhop when he was made king of "the Eaſt Angles. After he was dead the Angles "went to the king of Saxony, and demanded Ed-"mund, his ſon, and received him as Offa's ſuc-"ceſſor, and haſtening home, they landed at Hun-"ſtanton, in Smithdon hundred, from whence they "carried him to the ancient city called Attleburgh, "where he lived a whole year, yielding himſelf "up chiefly to devotion; here he perfected what he "had begun in Saxony, namely, to repeat all the "Pſalms *without* a book, and at the year's end he "went to Suffolk, &c." From whence it appears that it was certainly then a place of great repute, and might be afterwards re-fortified, upon the Danes coming to theſe parts. It is plain that the hills of the fortification, or burgh, were very remarkable in the time of Henry II. for then the family that dwelt within them took their ſirname from them: William de Foſſato de Attleburc lived at that time here, who, with his deſcendents, are called in old Engliſh "*atte*

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the Dyke," (now Dikes, or Dix) and all theſe things being duly weighed, and compared, we could not omit them, knowing how much the account of Attleburgh hath invalidated the reſt of his hiſtory. And thus having given our thoughts of the original of this place, we ſhall proceed to treat of the ſeveral manors, &c. which have been, or now are in this town.

PLASSET, or PLASSING-HALL MANOR, belonged to Toradre, a Dane, in the Confeſſor's time, and another part to Turkill, one of that nation alſo; which ſhews us that the Danes had got poſſeſſion of this place, and that its decay was owing to their ſeizing it. After Toradre's expulſion, or death, it belonged to the caſtle, and continued in the crown till the Conqueror gave it to Roger Fitz-Reynard, at whoſe death it was re-joined to the caſtle, to which it had belonged almoſt ever ſince its foundation, which, in all appearance, was owing to the Danes forcing them hence; upon which the caſtle was firſt erected, in order to oppoſe them; and accordingly, when they were forced to quit poſſeſſion, the whole was ſeized and added to the caſtle, with which it was given to William de Albany, and deſcended with the co-heirreſs of that family to ſir Robert de Tateſhale, and from him to the Bernaks, as Plaſſet's in Beſthorpe did, which was a part of this manor, to which one third part of the advowſon belonged, and another third part to this, ſo that there were two third parts belonging to Plaſſet's, this and Beſthorpe being reputed as one manor; for in 1312 Edward II. ſummoned ſir William de Bernak to ſhew cauſe why he hindered him preſenting to two parts of the church of Attleburgh, which was void, and to which he ought to preſent, becauſe the advowſon was parcel of the inheritance of Hugh de Albany, earl of Arundel, at whoſe death the king ſeized his eſtate and advowſons, be-

cauſe he held of him in chief, and died without iſſue, and his inheritance was divided among his four ſiſters, all of whom, except Cecily, had their ſeveral parts in manors, lands, and advowſons aſſigned to them, as the cuſtom was; but as neither the ſaid Cecily, nor her heirs, had requeſted the king to grant out of his hands her part of the advowſons, therefore the advowſon of two parts of this church, which was not aſſigned to any of the other parceners, remained in the king's hands, as belonging to the part of Robert de Montealt, heir of the ſaid Cecily. To which William anſwered, and proved that the advowſon belonged to the manor of Plaſſet, which was aſſigned to Robert de Tatteſhale, who enfeoffed him in the ſaid manor; and that if it had not been ſo, it could not belong to the king, becauſe Plaſſet's manor is not held of the king in chief; upon which ſir William recovered the advowſon, and preſented accordingly.

In 1285 ſir Robert de Tatteſhale had view of frankpledge, aſſize of bread and ale, free-warren, gallows, and a Thurſday market in Attleburgh, all which were conveyed by him to ſir William Bernak, and his heirs.

In 1438 Ralph lord Cromwell, who had two turns in the advowſon, (ſir John Clifton, knt. having the third, in right of Margaret, his mother) granted his advowſon to ſir John de Radcliff, knt. and his heirs, together with the manor of Plaſſet, in Attleburgh, (which was now ſeparated from Plaſſet's in Beſthorpe,) and ſo it became joined to Mortimer's manor, with which it now remains, the third turn in the advowſon of the two parts being joined before 1516.

BACONSTHORPE. CROWS-HALL, or COPSY MANOR, belonged to Alfred, an Engliſhman, at the conqueſt, who

who held it of Buckenham-caſtle, to which it was after joined, being given by Henry I. to William de Albany, who added it to Plaſſet's manor, with which it continued till the ſaid William enfeoffed Alured de Atleburc in it, who held this, and other eſtates of his gift, by the ſervice of two knight's fees. In 1251 Jeffrey Crowe owned it, from whoſe family it took its name.

In 1337 Edmund de Baconſthorpe had this, and Welbourne manor and advowſon; and in 1347 this, and Caſtor, by Norwich, was ſettled on Thomas Moyne, and his heirs; but in 1393 the manor of Crows-hall, called Copſy, was ſettled by Ralph Gedding on Cecily his wife, &c.

In 1397 ſir William March, knt. had it; and in 1457 ſir John Clifton, knt. held the manor of Baconſthorpe, Copſy, or Crows-hall; and it fell ſoon after into Mortimer's manor. It took its name of Baconſthorpe from its ancient lord, and is now called (by corruption) Banſthorpe, which is a hamlet, with a leet belonging to it, where the lord of the hundred, who keeps it, ſwears a conſtable yearly, whoſe power extends to this hamlet only.

CHAUNTICLER'S, commonly called CHANCELLOR'S, in Attleburgh, was part of Mortimer's manor, granted by William de Mortimer to William Ponyaunt, who held it of him in 1296, at a quarter of a fee, and it extended into Ellingham and Beſtorpe. In 1359 Thomas Chaunticler, of Attleburgh, owned it; this Thomas built the north chapel, or tranſept of the church.

In 1481 Thomas de Brampton, eſq. in right of his wife, died lord. It continued in this family, and in

1561 William Brampton, eſq. owned the manor of Chancellor, in Attleburgh, and Beſthorpe, to the laſt of which it was ſoon after joined, and, we ſuppoſe, hath continued ſo ever ſince.

In 1619 Robert earl of Suſſex was lord of the manors of BRIDGHAM and CORIE, in Attleburgh, which in 1547 belonged to Peter Moulde, and Thomas Pooley, and were now united to Mortimer's; and this is all we meet with in relation to thoſe manors.

MORTIMER'S, in ATTLEBURGH, contained the third part of the town, or all the other Atleburc, or the whole of that part where the preſent church and town ſtands, and accordingly a third part of the advowſon always belonged to it, and continues to this day a ſeparate inſtitution. In the time of the Confeſſor Turkill the Dane had poſſeſſion of this, which was valued at 40s. but was riſen to 3l. in the Conqueror's time, who gave it, as a manor of that value, to Roger Fitz-Reynard: the whole of both the Attleburghs, or of the preſent town, which includes both, was then about four miles long, and two miles broad, and paid to the Dane-Geld 34d. ob. It came to the Mortimers very early, if not in the time of the Conqueror, with whom that family came into England. There are two towns in France of this name, one in Normandy, the other in Poictou, both written Mortimer; but neither of them being by the ſea ſide, Monſieur de Valois imagines them to be called *Mortimars*, and ſo ſhould be rendered in Latin *De Mortuo Mariſco*, and not *De Mortuo Mari;* and indeed it might be anciently written, by abbreviation, (which was uſual in thoſe times) *De Mortuo Mar.* which anſwers either to *Mari*, or *Mariſco*, though we think it is much the ſame, for we ſuppoſe that *mare* ſignifies not only the ſea, but any large ſtagnation of water, and that hence

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is derived our Engliſh word *mere*, *meer*, or *mare*, for a large water; and thus the *Mare Mortuum*, which is a lake in Judea, ſo called becauſe it never moves, might give name to theſe places, which though they were not ſituated by the ſea, yet ſtood near ſome ſuch ſtagnated waters, or fens. Mr. Dugdale thinks, that Robert de Mortimer, who lived in king John's time, was the firſt of the family that was concerned in Norfolk; and the Atlas tells us, that they are deſcended of the lords Mortimer of Wigmore, both which are miſtakes, for the arms of this family, and thoſe of Wigmore, being always quite different, it is a plain argument to us, that they are of a different extract, and might aſſume their names from different places. That this family was of French riſe is evident from the very arms, viz. Or. Semi de Fleures de-liz, Sab. the very arms of France, at that time, only the colours varied; and as to the other point, the firſt of the family that we meet with here was ſir William de Mortuomari, or Mortimer, of Atleburc, knt. whoſe effigy, riding full ſpeed on horſeback, with his ſword drawn in one hand, and his ſhield of arms, as before, in his other, is appendant to an original deed of his in the Cotton library.

The next that we find here was ſir Robert Mortimer, knt. who lived in the time of Henry II. In Somner's antiquities of Canterbury we read, that in 1181, "in a proceſſion at Chriſt's church, in Canterbury, ſir Robert Mortimer, who was under excommunication for his contumacy, becauſe he would not obey the law, being queſtioned for a wrong done to the church of Canterbury, in taking from the manor of Deepham, in this county, a certain parcel of land belonging to the monks, intruded himſelf into the company; prior Alan eſpying him there, informed the archbiſhop (who was then preſent) of it, and that

a ſecond time, becauſe the archbiſhop would have connived at it; but when the whole company was was come into the church, ſir Robert with them, and maſs begun, the prior required the convent to ceaſe, who obeyed, and ſo the excommunicant, to his ſhame, was by a ſtrong hand thrown out of the church, and then they proceeded in their devotions."

He was ſucceeded by William, his ſon and heir, and he by ſir Robert, his ſon and heir, who in the year 1194 was forced to find ſureties to Richard I. becauſe he had preſumed to hold a tournament* without *royal* licence. This ſir Robert, and William his ſon, were both againſt king John in his Baron's wars, in the year 1205; and in 1215, ſir Robert being then alſo in arms with the rebellious barons, forfeited his lands in Lincolnſhire.

In 1218 ſir William de Mortimer held one knight's fee here, in Barnham Broom, Little Ellingham, and Toſts, half a fee in Stanford, and Buckenham Parva, and another half fee in Scoulton, of the earl Warren. In 1250 he had a charter for free warren in his manors of Attleburgh, &c. He was ſucceeded by ſir Robert de Mortimer, his ſon and heir, who lived in the year 1263, when the barons roſe againſt Henry III. among whom ſir Henry Haſtings, who was very active againſt the king, came and beſieged the caſtle of Buckenham, becauſe ſir Robert de Tatteſhale, the ſecond

* A tournament, otherwiſe called juſtling, or tilting, was a martial exerciſe of armed knights, encountering one another with ſpears or lances, a diverſion, in ancient times, much uſed, but now quite laid aſide. No one could hold any public tournament without *royal* licence, at that time, for fear of any conſpiracies that might be raiſed againſt the government under that pretence.

ſecond of that name, who who was owner of it, held it, declaring openly for the king, and great part of the neighbouring country ſent men and arms, and what aſſiſtance they could to him, in order to enable him to endure the ſiege. Among others, ſir Robert de Mortimer ſent a ſervant of his, called Leonine, to the caſtle, during the ſiege, with ſome private information to the beſieged, (as it ſhould ſeem) for the ſiege being raiſed upon it; ſir Henry went to ſir Robert's manors in this county, burnt the houſes, and waſted the ſtocks found upon them: whether ſir Robert himſelf was killed we do not know, but he died this very year, for in the year following William de Mortimer, his ſon and heir, was in the cuſtody of the earl Warren, who now was of the king's ſide, ſo that he and his goods were ſafe, and protected by the caſtle.

Sir William being always attached, as well as his father, to the king's ſide, was ſummoned by the king to attend his ſervice among his judges and council. In 1285 he had the king's letters of protection during his abſence beyond ſea, about the king's buſineſs; and in the ſame year had liberty of free-warren, aſſize of bread and ale, view of frankpledge, and waif, allowed him in this manor. In 1293, king Edward going into Gaſcoign, he had command to fit himſelf with horſe and arms, (as the chief men in England then did) and to attend the king at Portſmouth on the firſt of September, to aſſiſt him againſt the French. In 1266 he was ſummoned to parliament, among the barons of the realm, in which year, being again in France, with the earl of Lincoln, to relieve Bellaguard, at that time beſieged by the earl of Arras, he was taken priſoner, and carried to Paris, where he died, as it ſeems, being then called William de Mortimer, of Kingſton, in Cambridgeſhire.

The chapel of the Holy Croſs, founded by ſir William for his own interment, is now ſtanding, and is called Mortimer's chapel, it being the ſouth tranſept, or chapel, oppoſite to Chaunticler's, which is on the north ſide; and by reaſon of the officiating prieſts that daily ſerved in theſe chapels, before the foundation of the college, this church was in the collegiate form, and had ſervice performed in it according to the collegiate manner. He died November 12, 1297, leaving Conſtantine his ſon and heir, then ſixteen years old, whom the king ſeized as his ward, but in 1298 John earl Warren ſued the king for his wardſhip, which belonged to him in right of the manor of Attleburgh, which was held of him. In 1307 he was one of the great men in the retinue of John de Warren, earl of Surrey, who was then with the king in France, at his interview and marriage with Iſabel, daughter of Philip king of France. In 1309 he held his manors and lands in Attleburgh, Ellingham, and Barnham Parva, of the earl Warren, at one fee; and in 1310 had a charter for a yearly fair at his manor of Attleburgh, and was in the Scotch expeditions. In 1329, upon the death of Thomas de Cailly, the cuſtody of Buckenham-caſtle was committed to him; he died the twelfth of November, and was buried in Mortimer's chapel, leaving ſir Conſtantine Mortimer, knt. his ſon and heir, who in 1335 was ſteward of the houſhold to Eleanor, counteſs of Gueldres, the king's ſiſter, and had an allowance of 22l. for the charges of his men and horſes in that ſervice. In 1337 he had a charter for free-warren in all his lordſhips and lands.* In 1341 he was ſummoned to parliament among the barons,

* In 1332 there was a ſir John de Mortimer, of Attleburgh, knt. who was ſir Conſtantine's uncle, being a younger ſon of ſir William Mortimer, and brother to ſir Conſtantine, ſenior.

rons, but never after; he was the ſame year, in the expedition made by the king into France, one of the retinue to Ralph lord Stafford, ſo he was alſo in the expedition in the year 1344. In 1349 he had the king's licence to travel to Rome, with one valet, two horſes, and two ſervants. In 1451 an invaſion being threatened by the French, he was joined in commiſſion with John d'Engaine, for arraying of all men that had able bodies, and ſufficient eſtates, in Cambridge, and Huntingdonſhires, for the defence of the realm. He died in 1354, and leaving no iſſue by Agnes his wife, ſir Robert de Mortimer,* his brother, became ſole heir, both to him, and ſir Conſtantine his father. He was lord of Great Ellingham. This ſir Robert founded the college, or chantry, of the Holy Croſs, in Attleburgh, and was buried here in 1387. He had two ſons; Conſtantine Mortimer, eſq. his youngeſt ſon, was poſſeſſed of the manors of Great Ellingham, Barnham, Bekerſton, and Corſton, in Norfolk, and had free-warren allowed him to them all in 1405.

Sir Thomas Mortimer, his eldeſt ſon, died before him, beyond ſea, leaving iſſue by Mary his wife, who died May 2, 1406. She was daughter of Nicholas Park, eſq. own mother to the great ſir John Faſtolf, of Caſtor, by Yarmouth, in Norfolk; for in his will, dated November 3, 1459, he deſired his ſubſtance to be diſpoſed of in the beſt manner, for the pleaſure of God, and his ſoul's health; "and alſo for the releef, "ſocour, and helpe of the ſoules that I am moſt "oblyged to prey and do preye fore, and for the "ſoules of John Faſtolf, my fadir, dam Mary (the "doghtir of Nicholas Park, Squyer) my modir", &c. and it appears that ſhe was buried in the chapel, or choir,

* There was a third brother, viz. ſir Thomas Mortimer, of Attleburgh, who died before 1400, ſeiſed of a part of Attleburgh, which is called a manor.

choir, belonging to the chantry of the Holy Croſs, by ſir Thomas Mortimer, her laſt huſband. By ſir Thomas ſhe had three daughters, co-heireſſes to ſir Robert, their grandfather, viz. Elizabeth Mortimer, the eldeſt, who married, in her grandfather's life-time, ſir Ralph Bigot, of Stockton, and had her portion aſſigned her on her marriage, viz. part of this manor, which was now made a ſeparate manor; Berry-hall manor, in Ellingham, Ladies manor, in Rockland, &c. for which reaſon ſhe had nothing more at her grandfather's death: ſhe had three huſbands; firſt, ſir Ralph Bigot, knt. who died in 1406; ſecond, Henry Pakenham; and laſtly, Thomas Manning, to whom ſhe gave all her eſtate; he afterwards re-married a daughter of ſir Thomas Jenny.

Cecily, the next daughter, firſt married to ſir John de Herling, knt. and afterwards to John Ratcliff, of Attleburgh, eſq.

Margery, the third, married ſir John Fitz-Ralph, of Great Ellingham, knt. Between the two latter ſir Robert Mortimer, their grandfather, divided his eſtate, on condition that each of them ſhould pay 1000 marks to his feoffees for them to finiſh Attleburgh college with, and endow it according to his deſire, and accordingly, after his death, ſir John Herling, and ſir John Fitz-Ralph, giving the feoffees ſecurity for the money, had the inheritance divided between them in 1402, and ſettled by fine. Sir John de Herling, knt. had the manors of Stanford, Attleburgh, &c. and the moiety of the advowſon of the college chantry at the altar of the Holy Croſs, in the church of Attleburgh, the manors of Newenham, and Foxton, in Cambridgeſhire, all which were ſettled on Cecily and her heirs. The manors of Scoulton, &c. with the advowſon of the third part of Attleburgh, and the moiety

moiety of the advowſon of the college, &c. were ſettled on ſir John Fitz Ralph, and his heirs; and thus the eſtate of the noble family of the Mortimers was divided.

In 1403 lady Cecily de Herling held this manor, at one fee, of the earl Warren. In 1411 ſhe was married to John Ratcliff, eſq. her ſecond huſband, and at her death left it to him, and his heirs. This John was ſon of James Ratcliff, eſq. and was the firſt that advanced that family to the dignity and honor that it afterwards poſſeſſed, being a brave champion in war, even from his youth, for which he was ſo much in the favor of that victorious prince, Henry V. that in the firſt year of his reign he granted an annuity of 40 marks a year to him, and Cecily his wife, and the longeſt liver of them, to be received by half yearly payments out of the manor of Tunſtead, which belonged to the king's honor, or Duchy of Lancaſter, upon ſpecial truſt that the ſaid John ſhould not be retained, or ſerve any one in war, but himſelf only, during his life; and as a further mark of favor, another grant paſſed the ſame day, to him only, during his life, of another annuity of 25 marks a year, iſſuing out of all the lands and demeſnes of that duchy in Norfolk, to enable him the better to perform his ſervice, both which annuities were conſtantly paid him by the receiver of the duchy; and from this time he conſtantly attended the king in all his wars. He was a 'ſquire only at the battle of Shrewſbury, and was knighted by Henry V. upon his landing at *Quies de Caux*, commonly called Kidcaux, where the Seine quietly runs into the ſea, and the next day went with his maſter to the town of Harfleur, which ſtands on that river, and beſieged it on all ſides, and was at the ſurrender of it; after which the king ordained the duke of Exeter, his uncle, captain and governor of that

that town, (who eſtabliſhed ſir John Faſtolf his lieutenant there) with 1500 men, (or as ſome ſay) 2036 knights, of which the baron of Carew, and ſir Hugh Lutterell, were his two counſellors. In 1415 he was in the battle of Agincourt, in that part which was commanded by the duke of Exeter, where he behaved ſo gallantly, that he was ſoon after made the king's receiver in his city and dominion of Vernevil, in Normandy, and when the king returned into England, he went with the duke, and ſtaid with him, and ſir John Faſtolf, at Harfleur, from whence they ſoon after made a great inroad, with 3000 Engliſhmen, into Normandy, almoſt to the city of Roan, and got abundance of riches, and priſoners; but as they returned, the new made conſtable of France, hoping to win honor in his firſt enterprize, having with him about 5000 horſemen, encountered them, and a ſore conflict enſued, in which the duke loſt 300 of his infantry, and was forced to retire into an orchard, which was ſtrongly fenced with thorns, ſo that the Engliſhmen kept them off, ſtayed there all night, and went towards Harfleur in the morning, which the French being advertiſed of, followed, and overtook them on the ſands near Chief de Caux, (or Quies de Caux) and there attacked them, but in the end were quite defeated, and many of them ſlain by the Engliſh, who came ſafe to Harfleur, to the conſtable's diſgrace. This was called by ſome the battle of Kidcaux, and by others the battle of Vallemont. Soon after this the conſtable (to retrieve his loſt honor) beſieged them in Harfleur, but by the valiant behaviour of the duke, ſir John Faſtolf, ſir John Ratcliff, and others, the town was manfully defended till the king's navy, under the command of the duke of Bedford, came to their aſſiſtance, and meeting with the French navy at the mouth of the Seine, engaged, and vanquiſhed it, ſunk 500 ſhips, went up the river, and refreſhed the town with victuals

and

and money. The conſtable hearing the navy was vanquiſhed, raiſed the ſiege, and returned to Paris with leſs glory than he expected. In the year 1417 ſir John was at the taking of the caſtle of Tonque, the city of Caen, the caſtle of Courſie, the city of Sees, the town of Faleis, and at the great ſiege of the city of Roan, being then in the king's troop, which, joined with lord Gloceſter's, lay before St. Hillary's gate, the reſt of the generals encompaſſing the whole town, which had then (according to hiſtorians) 21,000 ſouls in it, and ſuch reſolute commanders and governors among them, as ſwore to each other never to yield the city as long as they could hold ſword in hand, upon which enſued one of the greateſt ſieges that the hiſtory of that age furniſhes us with, which is largely recited in Holingſhed's hiſtory, together with the miſerable famine in the city, during the latter part of the ſiege. " If, (ſays he) I ſhould rehearſe how deerlie " dogs, rats, mice, and cats, were ſold within the " town, and how greedilie they were by the poore " people eaten and devoured, the reader might la- " ment their extreme miſeries," which paſſage we cannot but obſerve, to ſhew, among other examples, the great fidelity of this hiſtorian; for in the old roll before mentioned is this paſſage, " Furthyrmor, as " towchyng to the derth of vytayles withyn thys for- " ſeyd cytee, one buſchell of whete was worth v. " ſcutys; one loſe, j. frank; one dog. j. frank; one " kat, ijs. ſterl. 1. rat, vjd. ſterl. and as towchyng " all other vytayles, it was ſpendit er that we com in " to the cytee."

It is plain that ſir John Ratcliff, and ſir John Faſtolf, had done eminent ſervices in this ſiege, for immediately after the latter was made governor, or captain of Conde-Noreau, and the former of the caſtle of Fronſak, in Aquitain, and had 1000 marks per annum

num allowed him for the guard thereof. He was elected knight of the garter, by his royal maſter, in 1420, and died before St. George's feaſt in that year, (for then his ſword, helmet, &c. were offered) and was interred in the choir of this church, leaving ſir John Ratcliff, knt. his ſon and heir, who inherited his father's courage, as well as eſtate, being well known to the king, and having conſtantly attended the wars with his father, and was, upon his death, made governor of Fronſak caſtle, and of the caſtle of Bourdeaux, in Gaſcoign, in which poſts he behaved himſelf ſo well, that Henry VI. in the firſt year of his reign, retained him to ſerve him as ſeneſchal, or ſteward of the Duchy of Aquitain, and aſſigned him four marks a day for his own ſalary, and 20 marks a-piece per annum for his 200 archers. In 1425 he was nominated one of the knights companions of the order of the garter, at St. George's feaſt, at Windſor, by John duke of Bedford, regent of France, the lieutenant, and the companions; ſir John Faſtolf (whom the lieutenant had firſt nominated) and he having equal votes, ſir John Ratcliff was now choſen, as named by the regent; ſir John Faſtolf was elected at St. George's feaſt, the next year. Soon after this he was again retained to ſerve the king in the French wars, with 100 men at arms, (of which number he himſelf was to be one) four other knights, the reſt 'ſquires, beſides his 200 archers. In 1432, upon humble remonſtrance that there was due to him in arrear, for thoſe and other ſervices, no leſs than 7029l. he had divers lands, rents, &c. in Wales, aſſigned him for payment of it. In the 13th of Henry VI. he was ſent to Arras, to treat with the dauphin of France, and the year following was lieutenant of Calais when the duke of Burgundy laid ſiege to that garriſon, but he lived not long after; for having exerciſed himſelf in arms 28 years, he died in the 16th year

year of this king's reign, and was buried by his anceſtors, in the choir of this church, leaving Thomas Ratcliff, and Robert Lathum, his executors, who in the 19th of the king's reign had a grant of all the revenues of Bridgewater, and other ports, to diſcharge a debt of 7015l. due from the king, for ſir John's ſervices as ſeneſchal of Aquitain, and conſtable of the caſtle of Fronſak. He died ſeiſed of Attleburgh-Mortimers, &c. and in 1452 Katherine his widow was buried here; ſhe was daughter and co-heireſs of ſir Edward Burnell, knt. and wife of ſir John Ferrers, knt and after of ſir John Ratcliff. She left Billingford manor and advowſon, held of the king as of the honor of Hatfield-Peverell, by the rent of 6s. 6d. per annum, and not in capite, to John Ratcliff, eſq. ſon and heir, who, according to Mr. Le Neve, married Elizabeth, daughter and heireſs of Walter lord Fitz-Walter. He was killed at Towton, near Ferrybridge, in Yorkſhire, March 29, 1461, being then lord Fitz-Walter, and left John Ratcliff, eſq, his ſon and heir, nine years old, whoſe wardſhip the king granted to Elizabeth his mother, who then dwelt at Attleburgh.

In 1485, the 1ſt of Henry VII. he was ſummoned to Parliament as lord Fitz-Walter, and was joined in commiſſion with ſir Reginald Bray, knt. for exerciſing the office of chief juſtice of all the foreſts beyond Trent, being at that time ſteward of the king's houſhold, and had this year a ſpecial livery of all his lands. In 1486 he was aſſociated with Jaſper duke of Bedford, and others, to exerciſe the office of high ſteward of England at the queen's coronation; but in 1493 he, ſir Thomas Thwayts, ſir Robert Ratcliff, and ſir Simon Mundeford, were attainted of treaſon, for which the two laſt were beheaded, and the lord Fitz-Walter being pardoned, as to life, was ſent to Calais,

Calais, there to be kept in hold, but endeavouring to eſcape from thence, he was beheaded and ſo forfeited his eſtate to the crown; but yet Robert, his ſon and heir, found much favor; for in 1505. on the 3d of November, he was reſtored to his honor, by letters patent of that date; and ſoon after there were five ſeveral fines levied, by which the eſtate was conveyed to truſtees, who ſettled the whole on the ſaid Robert, and his heirs, except the manors of Southmere, Docking, Billingford, Eaſt Riſton, &c. in Norfolk, which were ſettled on Margaret, his mother, for life, the remainder to him and his heirs. He was made knight of the Bath at the coronation of Henry VIII. having obtained an act of parliament to revoke his father's attainder, after which he became one of the moſt remarkable men of that age.

In 1512 he attended the king in his expedition to Therovene, and Tournay. In 1522 he led the van of the king's army, ſent into France under the command of the earl of Surrey, in which, and other employments, he merited ſo well, that he was made viſcount Fitz-Water, and afterwards earl of Suſſex. He was one of the peers that preſented the articles to the king, againſt cardinal Wolſey; one of thoſe nobles that repreſented in their declation, ſent to pope Clement VII. that unleſs he complied, and permitted the king to be divorced from queen Catherine, his ſupremacy would not be long acknowledged in England. This earl obtained a ſpecial patent to himſelf and his heirs to exerciſe the office of ſewer, at dinner-time, at the coronation of all the future kings and queens of this realm, with the fee of 20l. per annum for that ſervice, payable out of the Exchequer, and was afterwards made lord high chamberlain of England for life.

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In 1541 he obtained a grant of the ſcite of the abbey of Clive, in Somerſetſhire, with the revenues belonging to it, and alſo of the college, or chantry, of Attleburgh, in Norfolk, with all its revenues, and the year following he died at Chelſea.

He was ſucceeded by Henry Ratcliff, earl of Suſſex, viſcount Fitz-Walter, lord Egremont and Burnell, his ſon and heir, who was made knight of the Bath at the coronation of queen Ann Bullein, and in the 1ſt of Edward VI. had the command of 1600 demi-launces, in the expedition then made into Scotland, in which ſervice being unhorſed, he narrowly eſcaped with his life. He was in ſo much favor at that time, that in the act for diſſolving the chantries, colleges, free chapels, &c. which was paſſed this year, he had this clauſe inſerted therein:—"*Provided alwaies, and be it "enacted by the authoritie aforeſaid, that this act, ne anie "thing therein contained, ſhall extend to the college or "chanterie of Attilbourgh, in the countie of Norfolke, "which the ſaid late king Henrie the eight gave to Ro-"bert, late erle of Suſſex, and to his heires, but that "Henrie, now erle of Suſſex, ſonne and heirre to the ſaid "late erle, his heires and aſſignes, ſhall and maie, by au-"thoritie of this act, have and injoy the ſaid college and "chanterie, and all manors, lands, tenements, advowſons, "tithes, penſions, portions, and other hereditaments thereto "belonging or appertaining, anie thing in this act to the "contrarie in anie wiſe notwithſtanding.*"

Upon the death of Edward VI. he was the firſt that appeared on the behalf of queen Mary, for which reaſon ſhe immediately made him warden, and chief-juſtice of all the foreſts ſouth of Trent; he was alſo knight of the moſt noble order of the garter. By his will, dated July 27, 1555, he bequeathed his body to be buried in the pariſh church of Attleburgh, ap-

pointing a tomb to be erected over his grave, notwithſtanding which we believe he was not buried here, for dying at ſir Henry Sidney's houſe, in Chanon-Row, Weſtminſter, in 1556, he was buried by his father and mother in the north aile of the church of St. Lawrence Poultney, in London, and with them removed and buried by Thomas his ſon, at Boreham, in Eſſex, the ſaid Thomas deſiring in his will that it might be ſo.

Thomas earl of Suſſex, his ſon and heir, by lady Howard, inherited. He was ſent (during his father's life-time) into Germany, by queen Mary, to the emperor Charles V. to treat of a marriage between that queen and prince Philip, the emperor's eldeſt ſon; and afterwards into Spain, to Philip himſelf, for ratifying thereof; the next year was, by them, made lord deputy of Ireland, and at his father's death chief juſtice of all the foreſts ſouth of Trent; afterwards knight of the garter, and captain of the band of gentlemen penſioners, and on the death of that queen, was made deputy of Ireland by queen Elizabeth; after that was ſent to Vienna, to the emperor Maximilian, with the order of the garter, and after that to the ſaid emperor, to treat of a marriage between queen Elizabeth and Charles duke of Auſtria; after that employed againſt the Scots, which ſervice he performed with much bravery and ſucceſs, and at his return was ſworn one of the privy council. He died in 1583, and gave to lady Frances, his widow, all his jewels, habiliaments, chains, buttons, ornaments, with or without precious ſtones, except the five ſtones, two great table diamonds, one great table ruby, one great pointed diamond, and a great bulloſe, which were given him, on a ſword, by Philip king of Spain, all which ſir Henry Ratcliff, knt. his brother and heir, was to have for life, and afterwards were to go from

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heir to heir, as the heir comes: he gave 4000 ounces of gilt plate, and 2000 ounces of white plate to his widow, and all the coaches, horſes, and furniture, which ſhe and her women uſed to ride in, beſides their riding horſes, and ſix geldings. It appears that he uſed to live ſometimes at his manſion-houſe of Bermondeſey, in Southwark; ſometimes at his noble ſeat of Newhall, in Boreham pariſh, in Eſſex; and ſometimes at Wodeham-Walter. He ordered that his executors ſhould keep houſe at Bermondeſey twenty days after his burial, about which they ſhould not expend above 1500l. but yet we find that they far exceeded that ſum, the whole expences of houſe-keeping, funeral, jewels, &c. amounting to 8237l. 7s. 10d. He left 19,024 ounces of plate.

The tomb ſet up in Boreham church coſt 292l. 12s. 8d.

After his death, Frances, his widow, had this manor for life; ſhe was a very religious, liberal, and charitable lady; and by her will, dated in 1588, ſhe ordered her executors to purchaſe a perpetual annuity of 20l. and ſettle it on a learned and godly preacher, to read two divinity lectures every week in the collegiate church at Weſtminſter, where ſhe was buried, in St. Paul's chapel, April 15, 1589; it was ſhe that eſtabliſhed the laſt college that was ever founded in the univerſity of Cambridge, for ſhe ordered her executors to beſtow the ſum of 5000l. over and beſides all her goods unbequeathed, for the erecting a new college in that univerſity, to be called the Lady Frances-Sidney Suſſex college, and purchaſing lands to be annexed to it, to maintain a maſter, ten fellows, and twenty ſcholars, which foundation is now Sidney-College. It ſeems as if ſhe had in her life time purchaſed the ſcite of it, and fitted up ſome part; for in

the account of the charge of the performance of her will, delivered in July, 1589, is this: "Item, The "college to be erected, or inlarged, at Cambridge, "v. m. l." in which account it appears that her funeral coſt 1368l. her tomb 200l. her benevolence to the poor, to preachers, and priſoners, 100l. her perpetual lecture 200l. the ſurgeon for ſearing her corps 20l. and her executors were chargeable with 10,996l. 14s. 9d. to perform all her legacies, of which they received in money by her 3997l. by 4614 oz. of plate 1220l. by 4868 oz. of white, or ungilt plate, 1164l. by jewels 2652l. &c. At her death the manor went to Henry earl of Suſſex, brother of Thomas earl of Suſſex, late huſband of the ſaid Frances, who was knight of the garter, and captain, or governor of the town and Iſle of Portſmouth; he died in 1593, leaving Robert earl of Suſſex his ſon and heir, who in the 37th of Elizabeth was ſent into Scotland by the queen, to ſtand proxy, as a godfather, at the chriſtening of prince Henry. In the 39th of that queen he was in the voyage with Robert earl of Suſſex to Cadiz; and in 1621 was inſtalled knight of the garter, and often reſided here; he had two ſons and two daughters, who all died in his life-time, without iſſue; Henry Ratcliff, lord Fitz-Walter, his eldeſt ſon, married Jane, daughter of ſir Michael Stanhope, knt. but died a young man.

In the pariſh regiſter it is thus entered: Robert Ratcliff our lord, the honorable earl of Suſſex, knight of the garter, died at London in Sept. and his lady the counteſs not long before, in the year 1629; he left ſir Alexander Ratcliff, knight of the bath, his adopted heir unto this manor, who was deſcended from ſir Alexander Ratcliff, of Ordſall, knt. grandſon to Robert Ratcliff, the firſt earl of Suſſex of that name; ſir Alexander Ratcliff, who was made knight

knight of the bath at the coronation of Charles I. married Jane, the natural daughter of Robert late earl of Suſſex; he left it at his death to John Ratcliff, eſq. his eldeſt ſon, who ſold it to ſir Francis Bickley about 1657; he was buried in a vault of his own making, in Mortimer's chapel, in the year 1670, leaving ſir Francis Bickley, bart. his ſon and heir, whoſe ſon, ſir Francis*, had ſir Francis Bickley, bart. who ſold the eſtate to ſir James Aſh's mother; ſhe left it in truſt to Mrs. Mary Windham, for the uſe of ſir James Aſh's male iſſue, but that falling, it came to the late Joſeph Windham Aſh, eſq. who was lord and ſole patron, the advowſon of the third part being purchaſed by Mrs. Windham of ſir Algernoon Potts. The ſtile of the court is, "Attleburgh-Hall, with its members." The fines are at the lord's will, and the eldeſt ſon is heir; William Windham, eſq. is the preſent lord and patron.

The WARE-POUND, or FROWICK-COURT, is the ſuperior court, all the other manors being held of it; it is always kept on Whitſunday, early in the morning, by a tree, which was on a hill in the ſtreet, (but is now cut down) and is commonly called *The Scolding Court*, it being obliged to be over and done with before ſun-riſe, according to cuſtom, or elſe the whole rents of the court are forfeited for that year.

In the 38th of queen Elizabeth Robert earl of Suſſex paid 16d. for the manors in this town, held of this court, and 2d. for the college lands, which are held of it alſo, as are ſeveral of the capital meſſuages by the rents of pence, and half-pence only, the

* By a ſecond wife he had three ſons; Captain John Bickley, the Rev. Mr. Humphry Bickley, rector of the two parts of Attleburgh, and Mr. Joſeph Bickley, who is ſettled in Virginia.

whole being freehold, and the rents amounting in all to 2s. 2d. ob. This always belonged to the hundred of Shropham, as it now does, together with the leets of the whole town, its hamlets, and whatever belong to the manors of this town, lying in Beſthorpe, for all which the annual leet fees, joined together, are 6s. 4d. ob. a year.

The lord of the hundred hath alſo a hundred court belonging to this town, to be kept every three weeks, with full power to end and determine all ſuits, and pleas of debt, not exceeding 40s. in which any reſident of this town is concerned, and power to levy, in as ample a manner as the county court: To him belongs alſo the market, which is held on Thurſday, and was formerly remarkable for the number of fat bullocks and ſheep which uſed to be expoſed and ſold here every other market day, but now is wholly loſt, and the market itſelf is very near it. There are three fairs kept every year; the firſt on Maunday Thurſday, but by what authority, or to whom it belongs, we know not; the ſecond on Aſcenſion-Day, this belongs to Mortimer's manor, being granted in 1510 to ſir Conſtantine Mortimer; the third belongs to the lord of the hundred, with which it was given to the Albanys, and is kept, according to its inſtitution, on the 15th of Auguſt.

In 1656 Robert Wilton, of Wilby, eſq. (lord of the hundred) lett unto ſir Francis Bickley, (lord of the manor) for twenty-one years, at the rent of 10s. a year, "A weekley, free, and open markett in the "towne of Attleburgh, on Thorſday in every weeke, "and alſoe one faire yearly, & every year to be "holden there, upon the 15th day of Aug: and "alſo free liberty of picage, & ſtallage, in and upon "the waſt grounds in the ſtreet, called the Town-"ſtreet,

" ſtreet, in Attleburgh, from the Signe of the Angell " to the ſigne of the Starre, on the one ſide of the " ſtreet; and from the ſigne of the Griffin to the " turning of the wall of the church-yard, over- " againſt the ſigne of the Starre on the other ſide of " the ſtreet; and for the ſetting up of penns, & " ſtalls, and for the buyeing, ſelling, & vending of all " manner of proviſion for food, and for ſale of any " other commodities whatever, &c. and alſo all be- " nefitts, profitts, &c. coming or accrueing by the " ſaid marketts and faires, and of the ſtalls, penns, " ſtandings, and places there; and alſo free liberty " of uſing the pound erected upon the waſt ground " in Attleburgh aforeſaid."

The lord of the hundred hath all felons goods forfeited, aſſize of bread and ale, a tumbrell, or ducking ſtool, (which is but lately decayed) waif and ſtray, free-warren, liberty of the game, fugitives goods, and all forfeitures, beſides other privileges, all which were confirmed in the time of queen Elizabeth, when the hundred was in her own hands, as appears by an inquiſition taken before Henry Blake, gent. the queen's ſteward of her liberty, and hundred of Shropham, in a general hundred-court held at *Ketelbrigge;* all which liberties relating to theſe towns were returned by the queen's mandate, upon inquiſition as aforeſaid, becauſe the lords of theſe manors began within twenty years laſt paſt to claim and uſurp within their ſeveral manors the liberty of gaming, and puniſhing falſe commoners, and ſurchargers, and other liberties, upon which the queen brought actions againſt the ſeveral lords, but they acknowledged her liberties, and obtained her diſcharge.

The GREAT RECTORY MANOR belongs to the rector of the greater part, or the two parts of Attleburgh, and the rector thereof now is, and his predeceſſors always were lords of it; the preſent rectory-houſe, which joins to the ſouth ſide of the church-yard, is the ſcite of it, and it hath ten acres of glebe land, the only remaing part of its ancient demeſnes, the reſt being now held by copy of court-roll. The cuſtoms are, that the eldeſt ſon is heir, and the houſes are at the lords will, but the land is a ſet fine of 2s. an acre.

The LITTLE RECTORY MANOR belongs to the rectory of the leſſer, or third part of Attleburgh, and the preſent rector now is, and his predeceſſors always were lords of it; the ſcite of it is now down; the cloſe in which it ſtood contains three acres, and is all that remains of its ancient demeſnes. The cuſtoms are the ſame as the Great Rectory Manor.

And now having given our readers an account of the ſeveral manors, we ſhall proceed to the church, which is dedicated in honor of the Aſſumption of the Bleſſed Virgin, though there is no part of that church which was firſt built here now ſtanding, but the tower only, and that not ſo high as it was originally; the antique Gothic arches, which are to be ſeen in the bell-chamber, ſhew us its antiquity, and that the bells were never deſigned to be hung there; it ſeems to us, that it was firſt reduced to the collegiate form when the chapels were founded, and the old chancel of the pariſh church taken down, and its nave converted into a choir, Mortimer's chapel on the ſouth ſide, and Chaunticler's on the north, making two handſome tranſepts, and at the foundation of the college it is apparent that the preſent pariſh church, viz. the nave, two ailes, and north porch, was begun to be built,

built, and was not finiſhed till ſome time after. Who was founder of the firſt church we know not, but the firſt alteration that was made in it was by ſir William de Mortimer, who founded the ſouth chapel for his own interment, and it is highly probable made the nave of the old church into a choir, and new-topped the ſteeple, becauſe afterwards his foundation ſervice was performed after the collegiate manner; this was finiſhed before 1297, in which year he died. The north chapel was founded afterwards by Thomas Chaunticler, who was buried in it in 1397; and when the college was founded the pariſh were entirely excluded from the old pariſh church, and that was appropriated for a choir, for the uſe of the college only; and in recompence thereof the founders of the college, their friends, and other pious benefactors, built the nave, and two ailes, for the uſe of the pariſh only; and ſo the choir, becauſe it belonged to the college only, was given with it by Henry VIII. to Robert earl of Suſſex, who was then lord, and being of a covetous diſpoſition, was ſo far from ſparing the building, that (as the pariſh regiſter informs us) he not only pulled down and ſpoiled the chancel, but alſo pulled up many marble graveſtones of his anceſtors, with monuments of braſs upon them, and other fair good pavement, and carried and laid them for floors in his hall, kitchen, and larder-houſe, where they were lying when the account was inſerted in the regiſter; and beſides this, he got fourteen croſſes, and as much town plate as was then worth above 100l. from the church, and by this means the chancel was reduced to ruins, as we now ſee it.

The two parts, or the greater part, is valued in the king's books at 19l. 8s. 9d. and pays firſt fruits, and 1l. 18s. 10d. ob. yearly tenths. The leſſer, or third part,

part, was valued at 8l. 2s. 6d. but being ſworn of the clear yearly value of 42l. 5s. only, it is diſcharged of firſt fruits and tenths.

The greater part, or the two parts annexed, otherwiſe called Hamon's Portion, from Hamon de Warren, who was rector of it at its taxation, when Norwich Doomſday-book was compiled, had ſir Robert de Tateſhale for its patron; the rector had a houſe and twenty-ſeven acres of glebe; William de Mortimer was patron for the third part, and its rector had a houſe alſo, and twenty-ſeven acres of glebe.

In 1603 there were 440 communicants, and now there are about 600 inhabitants; it paid 7l. to the old tenths, and is now aſſeſſed at 1999l. 3s. 4d. to the land tax.

Gilbert Berkeley, S. T. P. biſhop of Bath and Wells, was rector of the leſſer part in Henry VIII.'s reign; whether he had the other parts we cannot find, nor yet his inſtitution to this; he was born at Norfolk, conſecrated at Lambeth, March 24, 1559, had the temporalities reſtored July 10, 1560, died Nov. 2, 1581, and is buried at Wells, in Somerſetſhire. The patronage was then in the family of Gurnay.

After the diviſion of the Mortimer's eſtate this advowſon was allotted to John Fitz-Ralph, as part of the inheritance of Margery Mortimer, his wife; and from that time it paſſed with the manor of Ellingham-Hall, from Fitz-Ralph to Conyers, from them to the Warners, ſo to the Gurnays, and Davys, and after to the Potts, who ſold it to Mrs. Windham, and William Windham, eſq. holds it with the other manors and advowſons.

The

The tower, which ſtands in the midſt of the church, according to the collegiate form, is ſquare, and hath in it a clock and ſix bells.

In this town are ſtreets called Havercroft, Burgh, Weſtcar, and a hamlet called Baconſthorpe.

Many perſons of note were buried in this church, particularly of the families of Mortimer, and Ratcliff, to whoſe memory monuments and inſcriptions were placed.

Mortimer's chapel, which is on the ſouth ſide, belongs to Mortimer's manor; and Chaunticler's, or Chanceler's chapel, which is on the north ſide, belongs to Chaunticler's manor.

Of this town were alſo the families Chaunticler, Brampton, Berney, &c.

The preſent nave and ailes were begun by ſir Robert Mortimer, founder of the college, about 1378, and continued by his grand-daughters, their huſbands, and a great number of other benefactors, as their arms and effigies in the window ſhew us, it not being perfectly finiſhed till after 1405.

The following arms were in the windows, ſeveral of which now remain, the reſt being loſt, viz. Albany, Clifton, Fitz-Walter, Clare, Ufford, Ratcliff, Wingfield, Herling, Calthorpe, Hetherſet, Kerdeſton, Denton, Brampton, Moulton, Bacon, of Baconſthorpe, Norwich, Boutetort, the biſhopric of Norwich, Brewſe, Mortimer, earl of Suſſex, quartering Bohun, earl of Northampton.

Over

Over the porch door are the arms of Ratcliff, quartering Mortimer, and Ratcliff impaling, chequy a chief fleury de lis, cut in ſtone.

In one of the windows was an effigy of one of the Norwich family, kneeling in his court armour, with his wife, and under them his arms, impaling ſab. and another coat of Mortimer, impaling Norwich.

In a north aile window is the effigy of a prieſt in a blue veſtment, kneeling on a broken label; under him lies a man in winding-clothes, at full length, to intimate that William-at-the-Brook, chaplain, whoſe effigy it is, was a benefactor to the church, glazed that window, and was there interred; under him is this broken inſcription:—[*Orate*] *Pro*: *anima*: *Willi*: *at*: *ye*: *Broc*: *Capellani*: *qui*: *hanc*: [feneſ] *tram*: *conſtruxit*.

The organ, or old rood-loft, is ſtanding, on which are painted the arms of all the biſhoprics.

In Mortimer's chapel, againſt the eaſt wall, is a mural monument much defaced, which was erected for John Rawlyns, rector of all the parts of this church, whoſe arms, with thoſe of his wife, are on it, 1620.

In the church are mural monuments to ſome of the family of Bickley, lords here, and others to Norferd.

We find only two ſtones with inſcriptions in the nave; one hath the arms of Capt. John Gibbs, of the county of Norfolk, who died October 22, 1695, aged 48, with a panegyric in verſe. Mr. le Neve calls him the *famous* captain Gibbs; he was a great gameſter,

gameſter, and horſe-racer, in the time of Charles II. "He laid a wager of 500l. that he drove his light "chaiſe and four horſes up and down the deepeſt "place of the Devil's Ditch, on Newmarket-heath, "which he performed by making a very light chaiſe, "with a jointed perch, and without any pole, to the "ſurpriſe of all the ſpectators."

The following accounts are taken from the old regiſter of this pariſh, which is a very particular one; it begins in 1552:

In 1559 the town of Attleburgh, viz. Market-ſtreet, and Town-ſtreet, were burned.

In 1605 Edward Barthelet, eſq. was buried Nov. 27, a worthy gentleman, and juſtice of the peace, counſellor at law, dwelt at the hall, and kept a good houſe there.

In 1612 Maſter Glaſpole, alias Hamlet, was buried October 26; he was the earl of Suſſex's bailiff, dwelt in the Park-hall, and was the earl's foreſter there; he kept a worthy houſe, as if the park had been his own.

In 1623 a ſchool was erected in the ſouth aile chapel; the timber for the ſeats of it was given by the earl of Suſſex, and ſir William Knevet, and that for the top of the font now made. The town voluntarily allowed 4l. per ann. out of their town lands to the maſter.

In 1630 a guild was held on Midſummer-Day, at which there were thought to be 2000 people; they could not half ſit and dine there, but were conſtrained to go into the town, and there could not be

be of that ſudden meat enough provided for them; it was ſaid they left no bread in town by two o'clock; only beer was plentiful; there was no outrage or diſorder of the company; theſe meetings began in our church with ſolemn prayers, a ſermon, &c.

In 1631 the church was well repaired, and decently embattled.

In 1632 the wooden top of the croſs in the churchyard was made by John Forbie, clerk, by the appointment of the biſhop of Norwich. The globe was ſet up to ſignify the heavens, coloured with blue, with ſtars and clouds. On the aquator circle, *Aſpiremus permenſura Æterna.* The lower part coloured green, to ſignify the earth, with trees and flowers on it, *Quid tumultuamur? Peritura poſſidemus.*

In 1633 the new organs were brought into the church from 'ſquire Buxton's, of Tibbenham-Cannons, which coſt 10l. there, and 10l. more to take them down and ſet them up here, purchaſed by the pariſhioners voluntary gifts; and 9l. a year was voluntarily ſubſcribed for Mr. Leſingham, the organiſt, of which ſir Alexander Ratcliff, lord and patron, allowed 40s. a year, and the rector 40s. &c.

In 1636 the communion-table was placed, &c. as it now ſtands.

"In 1625, Aug. 11, was buried Mary, wife of Gilbert Green, hoſteſs of the Cock, who knew how to gain more by her trade than any other, and a woman free and kind for any in ſickneſs, or woman in her travail, and child-bed, and for anſwering for any one's child, and ready to give to any one's marriage."

Philip

Philip Coullier, yeoman, dwelt at Wymondham, died Dec. 24, 1625, worth 100l. per ann. he cloathed every Chriſtmas (long before his death) twenty poor children, from head to foot; he re-built all the houſes for the uſe of the poor that were burned by the fire at Wymondham, and left a gift for ever to cloath and feaſt ſo many poor children every Chriſtmas.

The religious concerned in this town had lands in it to the amount of 2l. 8s. 3d. yearly rents, of which the maſter of the college paid a free rent for land given to his houſe of 16d. and there was the value of 4s. 10d. a year tithes, which belonged to the priory manor, for all which the prior was taxed at 46s.

The prior of Wymondham was taxed for his temporals here 15s. 4d. and the prior of St. Faith's 15d.

The Terrier informs us, that Mr. Nerford, late rector, founded a free-ſchool, and endowed it with 6l. per ann. in lands, and alſo gave ſix two-penny loaves to the poor every Sunday, and tied the Rev. Mr. Beales's eſtate for it; there are thirty pieces of town lands, beſides the College-Cloſe, all which are ſettled to repair the church, and find it ornaments, for ever; and in the year 1651, we learn from the church-wardens account, it was then in the town's poſſeſſion, though they were forced to employ ſome of its produce to contrary uſes, viz. "to Richard "Lawes for *defacing* the King's-arms 6s." and it coſt the town a good deal to repair the ſeats heads, which were defaced at that time.

The College of the Holy Cross, otherwiſe called Attlebrugh Chantry, was founded by ſir Robert

bert de Mortimer, who was buried in 1387; he endowed it to the value of 2000 marks; and accordingly Henry IV. in 1405, for 100 marks, paid by the feoffees, granted them licence to build the chantry for five chaplains, one of which was to be maſter, who ſhould daily officiate in the church of Attleburgh for the ſouls of ſir Robert Mortimer, knt. &c. and to amortiſe to the ſaid chantry a meſſuage, and ſeventy acres of land, four acres of meadow, and two of paſture, in Attleburgh, and the advowſon of Great Ellingham, provided there be a vicar ſufficiently endowed, and a yearly ſum of money given to the poor there.

The four fellows were to obey all lawful commands of their cuſtos, or maſter. The cuſtos and chaplains to be perpetual, that is, not removed, unleſs for ſuch cauſes as would deprive a rector. All of them are obliged to reſide in their college, or manſion-houſe, and live together in commons, as in other colleges; and if any be ſo old that they cannot ſerve, or be hindered by continual ſickneſs, yet they ſhall continue in their place, and be maintained by the college during their life. The maſter to have 6os. a year ſtipend, and every brother 4os. The maſter and brethren to have every year a new cloth ſuit, or 10s. each. The cuſtos to be choſen by the fellows, and the major part of them may chooſe any one, whether he be of the college, or no. The cuſtos to have the ſole management of all the revenues of the college, both ſpirituals and temporals, giving an account to the fellows every Michaelmas-Day of all the receipts and expences of the whole year; and upon this the college was built for their manſion-houſe; it ſtood on the weſt ſide of the ſtreet, ſomething lower than the N. W. corner of the churchyard; there are no ruins, a new houſe being built on its

its ſcite, which is ſtill called the college; at the diſſolution it was given to Robert earl of Suſſex, in 1541, and ſo became joined to the manor; the advowſon of it was in moieties, one belonged to the Fitz-Ralphs, and the other to Cecily Herling, her huſbands, and her heirs. Henry VIII. granted licence to John Cleydon, maſter of the Holy Croſs chantry, and the fellows there, to appropriate the greater part of the church of Attleburgh to their college, and alſo to purchaſe lands, tenements, or manors, of the value of 20l. per ann. and ſettle them in mortmain, and the lord Fitz-Walter had licence to ſettle the ſaid advowſon on the college, but it was never done, the diſſolution following not many years after. It was endowed with 21l. 16s. 3d. per ann. at its diſſolution, according to Dugdale; but among Mr. le Neve's collections we find it valued at 50l. 6s. 4d. ob. q.

In the year 1709 an act paſſed for continuing an act made in the 7th and 8th years of the reign of his late majeſty king William, intituled, "An act for the "repairing the highways between Wymondham and "Attleburgh, in the county of Norfolk, and for in-"cluding therein the road leading from Wymond-"ham to Hetherſet, over the common belonging to "the ſaid town;" by virtue of which the tollgate on this road was erected; it was an exceeding bad road before the firſt act.

There is a ſquare ſtone pillar ſtanding by the road ſide, thus inſcribed:—*This pillar was erected by the order of the ſeſſions of the peace for Norfolk, as a grateful remembrance of the charity of ſir Edwin Rich, knt. who freely gave the ſum of* 200*l. towards the repair of the highway between Wymondhom and Attleburgh, A. D.* 1675.

1675.—This is ſaid to be the firſt made turnpike road in England; it is now one of the beſt.

The town of Attleburgh lies on the great poſt road from London, ninety-three miles and a half, to Norwich, fourteen and a half, and is the firſt ſtage from the latter, being fifteen miles from Thetford. The writer of the Engliſh Gazetteer tells us, "that it was anciently not only a city, but a palace, and the metropolis of the county, and had a collegiate church; it is a conſiderable town, and has a market once a fortnight, for fat bullocks, ſheep, &c. beſides its market on Thurſday.

In 1755, Auguſt 19, the rectories of Attleburgh *Major*, and *Minor*, were conſolidated; and in 1773 John Fairfax Francklin was preſented by William Windham, eſq.

BESTHORPE. This village is called in Doomſday Beſethorp, and Baconſthorp, and now Beſthorp, or the Beſt Village, from the goodneſs of its ſoil, and plenty of wood, as Spelman in his Icenia obſerves; it was a rectory appendant to the two manors in this town, and each of them had a turn in its advowſon; that which belonged to Plaſſet's manor was given by William earl of Arundel, the ſecond of that name, to the monks of Wymondham; and the other, which belonged to Robert de Bautvent's manor, was releaſed by him at that time to the ſame monks, and it was appropriated accordingly, before the year 1266; but becauſe the biſhop's official was witneſs to the appropriation, the prior and convent were to be patrons of the vicarage; the vicars were to have the houſe and lands belonging to the rectory, &c.

At

At the diſſolution the impropriation and advowſon came to the crown, and there continued till queen Elizabeth, in the 18th year of her reign, granted the portions of tithes to Richard Brokelſby, to be held at 26s. 8d. yearly rent; and in the 29th year of her reign ſhe granted to Edward Heron, eſq. and John Nicholas, gent. all tithes whatever in Beſthorpe, and lands, which lately belonged to Wymondham convent, and were *concealed*, and unjuſtly detained from the crown; and in the 30th year of her reign the advowſon of the vicarage, and the impropriation, was granted to the Cleres, and was joined to the manors before 1602, by the Drurys, with which they now continue.

Sir Thomas Downing, chaplain and rector here, built the vicarage houſe at Beſthorpe, and died in 1559. Over the chimney-piece is this:

Alle you that ſitt by thys fire warmyng,
Pray for the Sowle of ſir John Downyng.

The temporalities of the prior of Buckenham, in this town, were taxed at 3s. 1d. being lands given by the lords of Buckenham-Caſtle to the priory.

The lands belonging to the nuns at Marham were granted at the diſſolution to ſir Nicholas Hare, knt. and Robert Hare, eſq.

The prior of Norwich had an annual rent of 12d. The ſpiritualities, or great tythes belonging to the prior of Wymondham, were taxed at ten marks, and the temporalities at 14s. 4d. There was a manor belonging to the rectory before the appropriation, after which it went with it, and ſo became joined to the other manors.

In 1285 the prior had free-warren in his demeſnes in Beſthorpe; and in 1288 he held the 20th part of a fee in Beſthorpe, of Munchenſy's barony, which was heretofore Aymer de Valence's, earl of Pembroke, and this he joined to the rectory manor.

The prior of the monks of the church of Thetford was taxed at 15s.

The vicarage was valued in the king's books at 5l. 6s. 8d. ob. and being ſworn of the clear yearly value of 48l. 15s. 6d. it is diſcharged of firſt fruits and tenths.

In 1603 return was made that it had 180 communicants, and was late in the patronage of the crown; but it is now granted to Anthony Drury, the elder, eſq.

The town paid 2l. 14s. to the tenths, and is now aſſeſſed at 1087l. 11s. 8d.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and the north chapel to the Annunciation of the Holy Virgin.

Againſt the north wall of the chancel is a moſt curious monument of black and white marble, with the arms of Drury and Cokain impaled,—*Sir William Drury knt. one of his majeſty's juſtices of the peace, and quorum, and one of the deputy-lieutenants of this county; he married Mary, eldeſt daughter of William Cokain, of London, eſq. by whom he had iſſue two ſons, and three daughters; he died November* 8, 1639, *aged* 42.

On the north ſide of the chancel—*Charles Harbord, eſq. who died in* 1679, *aged* 84.

The

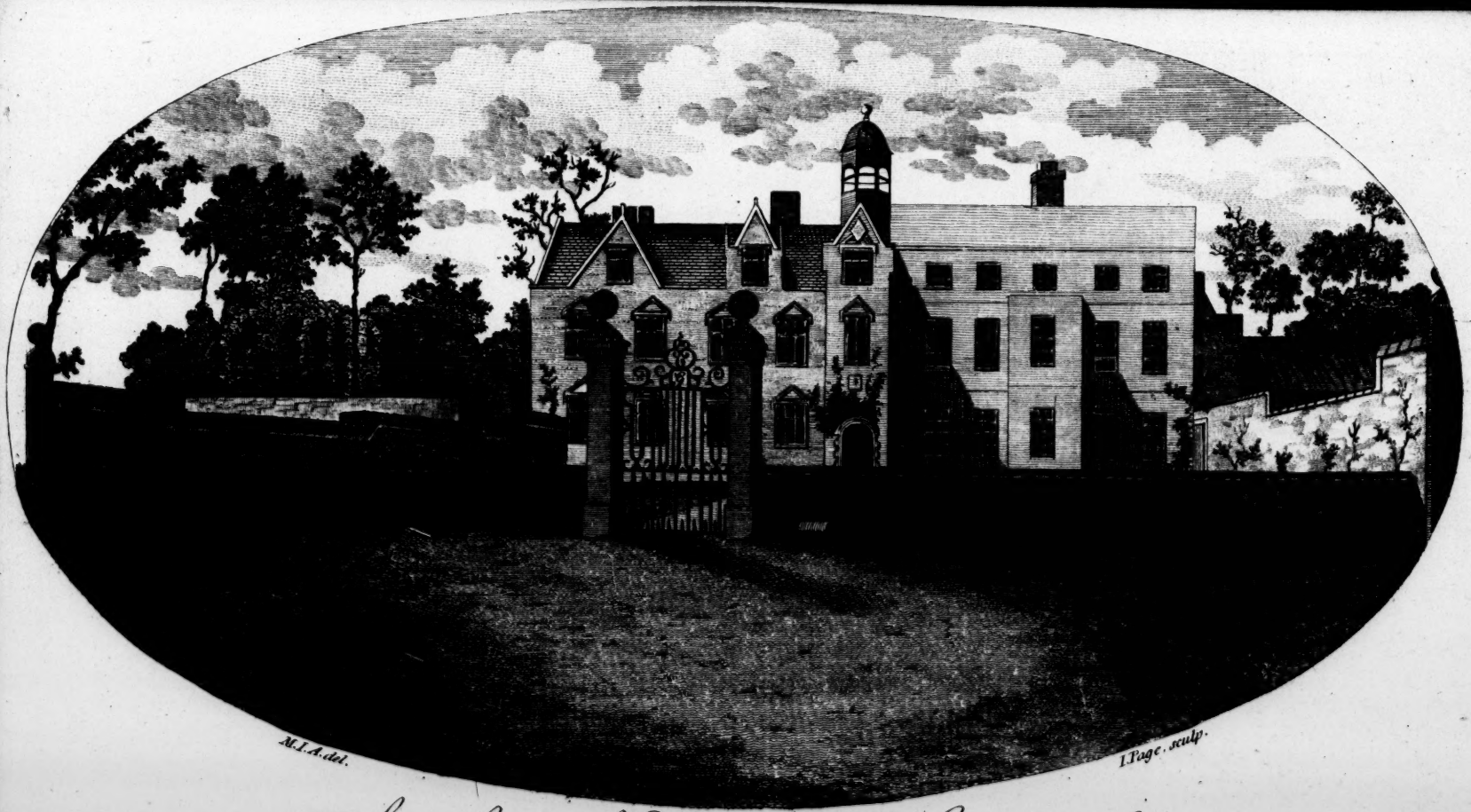
The following inſcription is over the door of a vault on the ſouth ſide of the chancel, which was built for the interment of Robert Nedham, viſcount Kilmurrey, in which the Harbords and Shaws have been ſince interred. Arms are, Nedham's atchievement ſupported by two roe-bucks, with this motto: *Nunc aut nunquam.* On each ſide Drury and Cokain impaled; underneath are the arms of Harbord, whoſe hatchment impales, arg. on a pale gul. three ſaltyrs of the field.—*Memoriæ prænobilis domini Roberti Nedham, vicecomitis de Kilmorrai, Carolo vicecomite (in utrumque Carolum Brittanniarum monarchas temporibus monarchomachis, fideliſſimo) ac Brigetta vicecomitiſſa ſuperſtite, Gulielmi Drury, equitis aurati & dominæ Mariæ filia prognati: Eximia tam virtute, quam eruditione, nobilitatem germinantis: proceritate, venuſtate, pulchritudine, oſtenti: amoris publici ferreo ſæculo magnetis: ingenio præcoci maturæ vitæ ſpem fruſtrantis: anno Dom.* MDCLXVIII°. *ætatis* XIII°. *Maij* XXIX°. *ſole, comite, et exemplo, ut alibi luceret, occidentis: Anaſtaſin Paſchatis diem, qui anno hujus obitus conſcio, dèfuit, æternitate penſaturam præſtolantis: hoc monumentum dicavit avia quotidie viſitatura. Dum jacet hic tumulo, manet hæc, tumulata dolore.*

A black marble,—*To Maria, wife of Charles Harbord, eſq. who died at Beſthorpe, Sept.* 5, 1666.

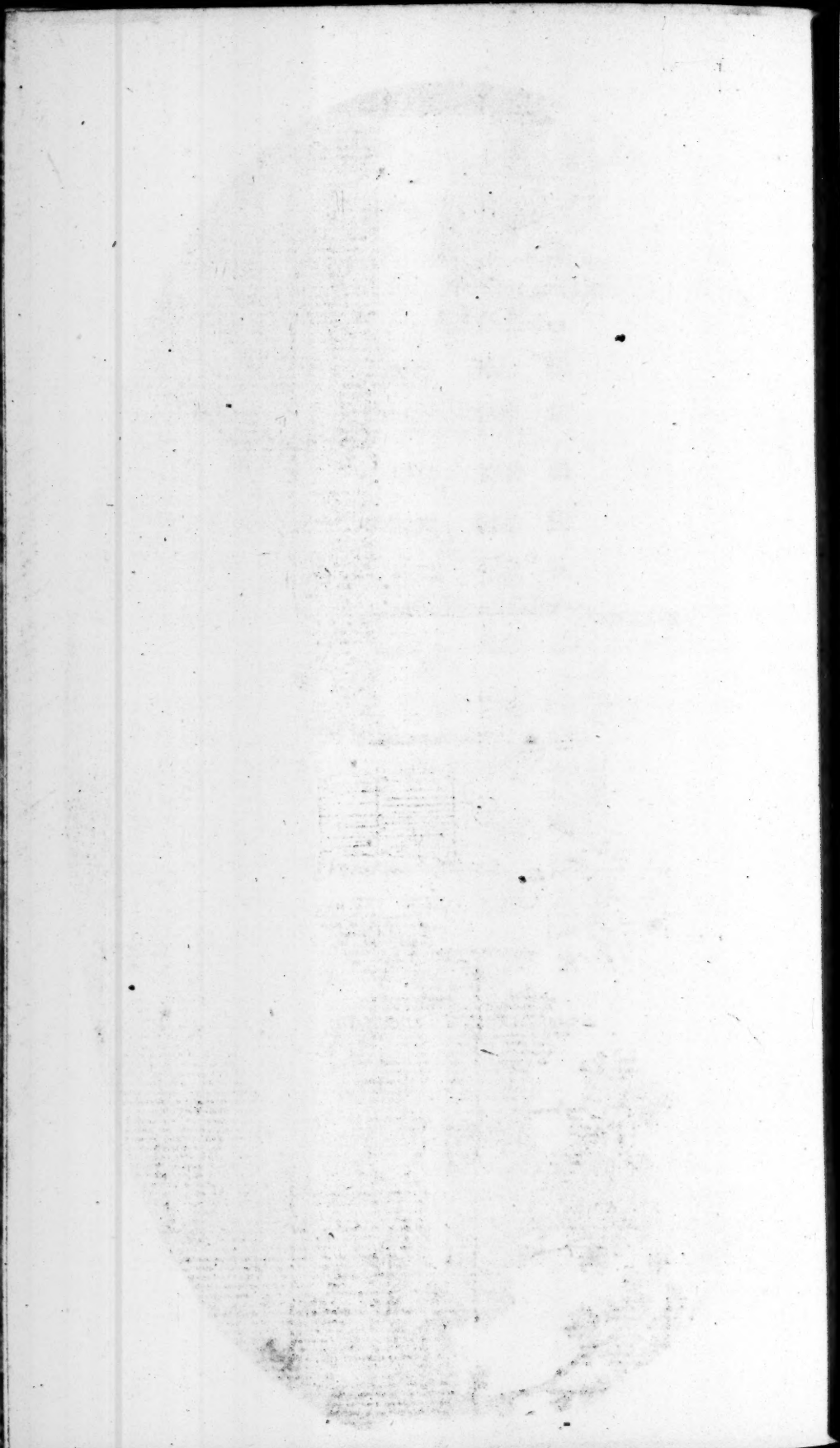
The following arms were to be ſeen in the windows of this church, but now ſome of them are loſt: —Buſh, Pratt, Ormond, Clifton, earl of Arundel, Mowbray, Fitz-Walter, Clare, Ely Biſhopric, and Mortimer, which now remains in the chapel of the Annunciation which belongs to Plaſſing Hall manor, and is on the north ſide. and Drury's chapel is on the ſouth, in which Drury impales Kemp. The ſteeple is ſquare, and hath five bells.

This town was held by Chetelbern, of the caſtle of Buckenham, in the Confeſſor's time, and was divided in the Conqueror's; but the ſock of the whole ſtill belonged to that caſtle, as a member of Shropham hundred, the lord of which is paramount, and hath the leet, and all ſuperior juriſdiction at this time. Half of this town, and part of Attleburgh, belonged to Roger Bigot, who held it of the caſtle, to which it was afterwards re-joined by the marriage of Maud, his daughter, to William de Albany, lord of the caſtle, and this part was then called Plaſſey's, and afterwards Plaſſet, and Plaſſing-hall manor. The other part, in the Conqueror's days, was given to Alan earl of Richmond, of whom Thurſtan held it, and afterwards Robert de Bautvent, or Bavent, from whom it took the name of Bavent's-hall.

Plasset, or Plassing-Hall Manor, belonging to the caſtle, as aforeſaid, paſſed, as that did, with the co-heireſs of Albany, to ſir Robert de Tateſhale, who in 1286 had a charter of free-warren in his demeſne lands, at Plaſſet, in Beſthorpe, and Attleburgh. In 1283 he purchaſed three meſſuages, 185 acres of land, and 20s. yearly rent in Beſthorpe, of Peter de Thelvetham, and added it to his manor; afterwards it deſcended to the Bernaks. By Maud, ſiſter and ſole heir of William Bernak, it came to ſir Ralph de Cromwell, lord of Tateſhale, her huſband, from whoſe family it went to the Fitz-Williams, and Knevets, by moieties, as heirs to Cromwell; and in 1516 one moiety belonged to ſir William Knevet, and the other to William Fitz-Williams, of Sprotſburgh, in Yorkſhire, eſq. as deſcendents from the aunts, and heirs of Ralph lord Cromwell, of Tateſhale; and what is remarkable, the manor was returned to be held of ſir William Knevet himſelf, as heir of Albany, by another deduction of his pedigree, by the yearly ſervice



The Seat of Thornhagh Gurdon, Esq.r



vice of a pair of gilt ſpurs, to be paid every midſummer day. In 1517 William Knevet, a younger ſon of the family, held the whole manor of ſir Thomas Knevet; in 1562 it belonged to William Cocket, by purchaſe from Creſſener, and in 1596 to Anthony Drury, in which family all the manors in this town were afterwards united.

In 1497 Maud Willoughby was lady, but it was only a jointure.

The manor aſſumed its name from its ſituation, to which it exactly anſwers. The plaſhes, or ſplaſhes, (as we now call them) are ſwampy places where the water often ſtands, and according to this etymology we find that in the time of Edward I. William del Bernak held 10l. rent at Plaſſy's, and about that time William de Plaſſy, who aſſumed his name from the manor, of which he was head tenant, lived as a farmer on the ſcite of it, and gave it the name of Plaſſy-Hall.

BAVENT'S MANOR belonged to ſir Robert de Bautvent, of Beſthorpe, in the time of Henry III. who gave the moiety of the advowſon of the rectory to Wymondham priory, as hath been obſerved.

In 1369 it was left to be divided between Eleanor and Cecily, ſiſters and co-heireſſes, and ſoon after it came to John Warner, of Beſthorpe, eſq. who had no iſſue; for in the pedigree of Henry Warner, eſq. of Womhill-hall, in Mildenhall, Suffolk, it is thus recorded; "Anno Domini, 1374, Thomas Whetenhale, a younger ſon of ſir James Whetenhale, of Cheſhire, knt. being of great acquaintance with one John Warner, eſq. of Beſthorpe, in the county of Norfolk, who had no iſſue of his own, nor any re-

" lated to him of the name; the ſaid John Warner " bequeſted his eſtate unto the ſaid Thomas Whe- " tenhale, conditionally, that the ſaid Thomas Whe- " tenhale would adopt himſelf, whereupon the ſaid " Thomas Whetenhale came into Norfolk, and cal- " led himſelf Warner."

The manor was after releaſed to William Drury, of Beſthorpe, and his heirs, by Robert Warner, of Norwich, and ſo it became united to Plaſſet's, in the Drurys.

PAGE'S MANOR was part of Plaſſet's, granted off by ſir Robert de Tateſhale, to Henry Page, of Beſthorpe, who was to hold it of him at one fee.

Thomas Spayne afterwards held it, but in the time of Edward IV. it belonged to the Dentons, and went with Felice, daughter and heir of William Denton, of Beſtthorpe, to Roger Drury, of Halſted, in Suffolk, who married her, and thus this manor came to the Drurys.

BRETTENHAM'S, or BRIDGEHAM'S MANOR, was held by the Curzuns, or Curſons, of Eaſt Carleton, and Stanfield, of ſir Robert de Tateſhale, at half a fee. In 1345 Thomas de Hederſet held it, and ſold it the ſame year to Peter vicar of Hockham, and John de Brettenham, from whom it took its preſent name, which in time was corrupted into Bridgeham's. In 1401 their heirs held it of the lady Cromwell. In 1408 Ralph Campayne, or Chaumpanne, ſold it to John Maundevile, by the name of Carſon's manor. In 1562 William Cocket, of Beſthorpe, eſq. had it, and owned it to his death, in 1579, when the manor went to the Drurys, and became united to the reſt.

There

There was a part granted off very early from Bavent's manor, which was held at half a fee of the Thorps, as of Aſhwell-Thorp manor. This after came to William Cocket, eſq. and being joined to Bridgeham's, went with that to the Drurys, who became poſſeſſed of all the manors, the impropriation, and advowſon.

The whole being thus united in the Drurys, it will be proper juſt to mention one or two particulars of this family. Anthony Drury, of Beſthorpe, eſq. was high ſheriff of Norfolk in 1619; ſir Anthony Drury, of Beſthorpe, was knighted in 1603; Anthony Drury, was buried September 15, 1640, leaving theſe, and Chaunticler's manor, to his two ſiſters, his co-heireſſes; Bridget, firſt married to Charles Nedham, viſcount Kilmurrey, by whom ſhe had iſſue Robert, alſo viſcount Kilmurrey, who was lord of a moiety, he died in 1668, aged 13 years, and was buried here. Second, Ann, married to Philip Harbord, of Stanninghall, and Beſthorpe, eſq. by whom ſhe had a ſon named William, who died young. On September 13, 1687, the ſaid Philip was buried here, and his moiety deſcended to his three daughters, of whom Sarah, his third daughter, died unmarried, leaving her part to her two ſiſters; Ann, married to Robert Paſton, ſecond ſon to Robert earl of Yarmouth, who ſold his moiety of the moiety to Charles Shaw, eſq. ſecond ſon of ſir John Shaw, of Eltham, in Kent, bart. who had married Elizabeth, the other ſiſter, ſo that he became ſole lord of the Harbord's moiety, and of the other alſo, in right of his mother, who after the death of viſcount Kilmurrey married ſir John Shaw aforeſaid, for her ſecond huſband, ſo that he became ſole lord. He died at Beſthorpe, April 28, 1716, and was buried there, leaving two ſons, and one daughter. Elizabeth, married to King Gould, deputy advocate of the

the admiralty, who had iſſue two ſons, Charles and Paſton. John Shaw, of Beſthorpe, eſq. captain in the guards, inherited, and died without iſſue in 1722, and it deſcended to Charles Shaw, eſq. of Beſthorpe, his only brother, who married Frances, daughter of Mr. Lightfoot, of Hampſhire, who died lately, and is buried here, leaving Elizabeth, his only daughter, ſole heireſs.

The cuſtom of all the manors are, that the fines are at the will of the lord, and the eldeſt ſon is heir.

There are two halls, or manor-houſes, in this pariſh, now diſtinguiſhed by the names of the Old Hall, (or Plaſſing-hall) and the New Hall, which is a good building, erected by the Drurys, as their arms on the outſide ſhew us, and was the ſeat of the Shaws. In the windows, &c. are the arms of Drury, with 1593 under them, the time we ſuppoſe the houſe was built, and Drury impaling the following arms, Briggs, Hethe, Denſton, Kemp, Spelman, Brampton, Garney's, &c. On the chimney piece Drury impales Cokain; Drury and Nedham; Drury and Harbord, Shaw and Harbord.

Sir John Shaw, of Eltham, in Kent, who married, in 1675, Bridget viſcounteſs Kilmurrey, daughter to ſir William Drury, of Beſthorpe, in Norfolk, was the 755th baronet by creation.

From the pariſh regiſter we find that, among others buried here, were ſir Charles Harbord, of Stanninghall, knt. on June 11, 1679; Henry, ſon of colonel Philip Harbord, May 6, 1682; Harbord, ſon of Charles Shaw, eſq. September 16, 1697; Charles Nedham, eſq. Auguſt 16, 1703.

In

In 1759 the Rev. Thomas Hall was preſented to this rectory, by Edward Turnour, eſq.

BRETTENHAM, is wrote in Doomſday-book Brecham. The manor and advowſon was given to the monks of Ely, along with Bridgham, and the reſt of the poſſeſſions of that abbey, in Norfolk, all which were confirmed by king Edgar, in the year of our Lord 970, but was divided before the Conqueror's time, by the abbots, into divers parts, they reſervnig the advowſon, part of the demeſnes, and a few ſmall rents only, to themſelves; all which they joined to their manor of Bridgham, with which it was aſſigned, at the erection of that ſee, to the biſhops thereof, who always preſented to this church, as they do at this day; the advowſon not being appendant to Bridgham manor, did not paſs to the crown at the exchange of that manor.

In 1277 the abbot of St. Alban's had a portion of great and ſmall tythes, taxed at one mark, and ſo had the prior of Thetford. The rectory was valued at 4l. 12s. 6d. in the king's books, but being ſworn of the clear yearly value of 40l. 6s. 8d. a year, it is diſcharged of firſt fruits and tenths, and conſequently is capable of augmentation. It is a ſmall pariſh of near 100 inhabitants. In 1603 it had 48 communicants. It paid 55s. to the tenths, and is now aſſeſſed at 119l. to the king's tax.

At this town there have been divers Roman coins ploughed up. We have ſeen a very fair one of Veſpaſian, thus circumſcribed, IMP. CAES. VESPATIAN. AUG. COS. VIII. PP. the reverſe was a Mercury holding an urn, and S. C. There were alſo urns found here; we have ſeen a ſmall one of red earth, that held about half a pint, all which make us

apt

apt to think that this town, and not Brettenham, in Suffolk, might be the Combretonium of Antoninus, and the *Conventronum & ad Convecin.* in the Peutegerian tables; and the rather, becauſe we never heard of any Roman antiquities found at the other Brettenham; but whether the name in Engliſh implies a town on the Breton, or, in Welſh, a valley, or low place, upon the Breton, we confeſs we know not; but the ſituation is in a great valley, or low place, upon that river which runs from Quiddenham-Meer to Thetford, the name of which we have not met with.

The church and parſonage-houſe were burnt down in 1693; the nave was re-built, but the chancel was not; there is a ſquare tower, and one bell; the nave and ſouth porch are tiled. The church is dedicated to St. Andrew.

The whole at firſt belonged to the abbot of Ely, by whom it was divided into ſeveral parts. The firſt two parts belonged to John, Waleram's nephew, at the time of the conqueſt, and had been held by two freemen under the abbot, in the time of the Confeſſor. The next was held by Eudo the ſewer, in the Conqueror's time, and by Turgis in the Confeſſor's. Leſius claimed it againſt Eudo, who recovered it from him, and then held it. Another part belonged to Roger Bigot, of whom William de Burneville held it at the ſurvey. The whole was then two miles long, and a mile and quarter broad, and paid 14d. ob. gelt; the lord of the hundred being then (as he is now) lord paramount of this town, and after this there were no leſs than ſix manors here, viz. the biſhop of Ely's, which was joined to Bridgham, and ever after paſſed with it, the manor of Catton, or Carleton-Hall, Burnville's manor, the two manors called Rothyng, or Rothyng-Hall, and the manor called Brettenham's.

CATTON,

CATTON, or CARLETON-HALL, belonged to Eudo the ſewer, and in 1230 was ſettled by Richard de Meiſy on Richard Fitz-Richard, and was after in a family ſirnamed de Carleton. William de Carleton held it in 1277, but how long it continued in that family we do not find. The Brettenhams had it in 1314. It ſeems as if the prior of Thetford was lord of it afterwards, till the diſſolution, but whether in truſt, or in right of his monaſtery, we cannot ſay, but in 1543 the king licenſed Nicholas Rookwood, prothonotary of the common pleas, to ſell it to ſir Ralph Warren, knt. alderman of London, whoſe ſon, Richard Warren, of London, eſq. ſettled it on Elizabeth his wife, in jointure, who, after his death, married lord Knevet; the reverſion, after her death, came to ſir Oliver Cromwell, in right of Joan, his mother, heireſs of Richard Warren; he ſold the reverſion to ſir Baſſingbourne Gaudy, who purchaſed lady Knevet's right; and in 1606 Framlingham Gaudy, eſq. ſold it to Thomas Wright, of Kilverſtone, eſq. in whoſe family it remained till it was ſold by Thomas Wright, of Kilverſtone, eſq. to Mr. George Proctor.

BURNVILLE'S MANOR was held of Roger Bigot, by William de Burneville, whoſe daughter Avice gave it to the prior of the monks of Thetford, and it was confirmed to them by Henry II. The prior joined it to his manor of Rothyng-Hall, from which it never was ſeparated.

BRETTENHAM'S MANOR belonged to Eudo the ſewer, and in 1198 to Richard de Brettenham, of Clare honor, at half a fee. In 1297 William de Brettenham, and John de Brockdiſh, had it. In 1299 the lady Sarah Le Noreiſe held it, and half Brettenham's part was ſettled on Ruſhworth college, and John de Brockdiſh's part was divided into ſeveral parcels, all of

of which were purchaſed, ſome by the maſter of Ruſhworth college, and ſome by the prior of Thetford, and added to their manors. The other part, which was not ſettled on Ruſhworth, was held by William de Brettenham, and paſſed to the monks at Thetford, along with their manor of Rothyng-Hall.

ROTHYNG-HALL, or RUTTEN-HALL, was the capital manor, and was owned by John, Waleram's nephew, at the conqueſt, and in the time of Richard I. by Alexander de Rohinges, Roynges, or Rothyng, who in the time of Henry III. was ſaid to have held it at half a fee, of Margery de Riparijs, who held it of the earl of Arundel, as of his hundred of Shropham, belonging to his caſtle of Buckenham, and the earl of the king in chief.

In 1314 Alexander de Rothyng, William de Brettenham, the prior of Thetford, and the maſter of Ruſhworth, were lords of the manors in this town. It was this Alexander that divided the manor into many parts, by ſelling half a fee held of the honor of Clare to Robert Baynard, &c. In 1345 Henry de Rothyng held the other part, which he divided into two manors, and ſold one to the Herlings, whoſe heireſs gave it to Ruſhworth college, and this was that Rothyng-hall manor that belonged to the college, and in 1374 he ſold the other part to Robert de Batisforth, &c. which was after conveyed to the prior of Thetford, who was taxed for the firſt part at 16s. and for this at one mark; and theſe conſtituted that manor called Rothyng's, alias Rothyng-hall, to which the prior joined his manor of Burnville. In 1413 the maſter of Ruſhworth college, &c. releaſed to the prior of St Mary, at Thetford, a yearly rent of 6d. paid them by the prior, out of lands in Brettenham, and thus there were two manors called Rothyng-hall, to the

the diſſolution, and then they both came to the earl of Surrey, in 1542, who re-united them, and in 1556 Thomas duke of Norfolk held it in capite of the queen. In 1572 it belonged to the earl of Surrey, and in 1583 Philip earl of Arundel ſold it to Thomas Lovell, eſq. In 1662 ſir Francis Lovell, knt. and William Lovell, eſq. ſold it to Thomas Wright, of Kilverſtone, eſq. in whoſe family it continued, till Thomas Wright, of Kilverſtone, eſq. ſold it to Mr. George Proctor, of Thetford.

In 1758 the Rev. John Warren was preſented to this rectory, by the lord biſhop of Ely.

BRIDGHAM was ſo called from the bridge which was the paſſage to Roudham-croſs, and was a remarkable and much frequented way for all pilgrims that travelled from Suffolk, and other parts, to our lady of Walſingham. This town was given by Ethelwold biſhop of Wincheſter, and confirmed by Edward the Confeſſor, to the monks of Ely, in whoſe hands it continued till the erection of the ſee there, and then it became part of the demeſnes of the biſhopric. In the Confeſſor's and Conqueror's ſurveys it appears that it belonged to St. Audrey, and was then two miles long, three quarters of a mile broad, and paid 12d. gelt; that the prieſt, or rector, belonging to the manor, held land of 2s. per annum value, as belonging to his church, but could not ſell it: there was alſo a ſocman that held half a caracate of land, whom Roger Bigot claimed as one of his freemen, but the abbot diſſeiſed him, and then held it. There were lands in Brettenham and Roudham that belonged to this manor.

In 1229 the biſhop had a gallows, pillory, view of frankpledge, cognizance of buſhels, gallons, and other meaſures,

meaſures, and liberty to hold plea of all things, which the ſheriff might, with writ or without. The advowſon belonged to the biſhop, but the nuns of Ponteverard, in Normandy, had a yearly penſion of ten marks out of this church by the gift of biſhop Euſtace.

The ſeveral heaths then called Longhill, Southfrith, Miklehill, Stapelfrith, Ringmeſkele, and Waterdele-frith, containing 260 acres, were to be fed by the whole town only, but none could dig, cut heath, &c. but the biſhop; but in Bukeſdeleſcote-Bury, Heroldeſcote, Perngate, (all which contain 155 acres) the whole town not only fed, but might dig, cut turf, &c. but not to ſell. There was alſo a marſh between Brettenham and Bridgham, and another marſh called Eſt-Etthe, in both which the whole town might feed, dig, cut turf, fiſh, &c. except in the lord's ſeparate fiſhery, which is between Weſt-Mill and Town-Mill, half a mile long. The tenants owe their ſuit to Town-Mill, and none to Weſt-Mill. Many other ſuits and ſervices are mentioned, as then exiſting. It continued in the biſhopric of Ely till by act of parliament, in the firſt year of queen Elizabeth, it was ſettled by way of exchange, among the reſt of the biſhop's manors in this county, on the crown, at which time it was under a leaſe, made in 1546 by the biſhop, for 60 years, at 39l. per annum, to William Drury, of Beſthorpe. This was aſſigned by Dorothy, late wife of William Drury, to William Brampton, of Bridgham, eſq. from whom Thomas Brampton, of Kenton, in Suffolk, had it, who poſſeſſed it in 1573, and lived in the hall, which he repaired, and glazed the windows with his own arms, impaling Waxton; alſo Bramton impales Leventhorp. Theſe arms were taken down by Mr. Robert Haylet, at whoſe ſale the Rev. Mr. Blomfield bought them. The remainder of this leaſe being bought in by Baſſingbourne Gaudy, eſq. the

the queen in 1594 lett it to him for thirty years, to commence at the end of the ſaid term, at 29l. rent, the advowſons of Bridgham and Brettenham being excepted; and from this time it continued in the Gaudys, as leſſees to the crown, till the 6th of June, 1609, and then the king granted it to Framlingham Gaudy, eſq. and his heirs, in fee; in which family it continued till ſir Baſſingbourne Gaudy ſold it to Thomas Wright, eſq. of Eaſt Harling. The fines are at the lord's will, the eldeſt ſon is heir, and the quit-rents are 13l. 14s. 1d. ob. a year.

HACKFORD'S MANOR was originally part of the manor of Hackford, in Weſt Harling, that extended hither, and paſſed with that till it was releaſed to Henry de Elmham, and Elizabeth, his wife, who was one of the daughters and heireſſes of ſir William de Hackford.

In 1485 William Tymperley had the cuſtody of this manor, &c. for twenty years, paying 43s. 4d. per ann. and maintaining the houſes and fences.

In 1516 John Harewell, and others, had it ſettled on them by Robert Fuller; and in 1550 ſir Thomas Lovell, of Eaſt Harling had it, in which family it continued, and was joined to the other manor after that was purchaſed, and ſo remains. There were three other parcels of land in Bridgham added to this manor by different purchaſes.

The rectory was appendant to the manor till it came to the crown, and was excepted when the manor was granted from it, and the biſhop of Ely always preſented till the exchange, and the crown ever ſince.

The rectory of Bridgham, alias Brigham, is valued in the king's books at 11l. 1s. ob. and pays 1l. 2s. 3q. yearly tenths; 1s. ſynodals, and 7s. 7d. ob. yearly procurations, though it paid none before the time of Henry VIII.

At the time of Norwich Doomſday the rector had a houſe and fifty acres of land; and now he hath a houſe by the north corner of the church-yard, but there remains but thirty-nine acres and an half of glebe.

In 1603 here were 128 communicants, and now (1740) there are but thirty houſes, and 180 inhabitants; it paid 3l. 6s. 8d. to the tenths, and is now aſſeſſed at 40l. 10s. to the land tax.

In 1411 Hugh Stoppuſly had licence in mortmain to amortiſe a meſſuage, lands, &c. which were held of the king, as of his Duchy of Lancaſter, to the prior and convent of monks, at Thetford, on condition that the king ſhould have 50s. at every reſignation, vacation, or death of a prior. This was part of the prior's manor in Brettenham, that extended hither.

The church hath a nave, north porch, and chancel, thatched; it hath no ſteeple, but there are two bells, which hang in a houſe in the church-yard. In the windows, and on the font, are the arms of the biſhopric of Ely. The church is dedicated to St. Mary.

John Watſon, of this town, was at the charge of ſeating the church.

From the regiſter, which begins in 1558, it appears that many of the Drurys, Goldwells, Bramptons, Grigſons,

Grigſons, Buxtons, Lovells, Bells, Chamberlains, Bedingfields, &c. were baptized and buried here.

In 1756 the Rev. James Thorn was preſented to this rectory by George II.

BUCKENHAM, NEW. This town had its riſe out of Old Buckenham when William de Albany founded the caſtle, and procured the land of the biſhop of Norwich to build it on, and to make his burgh, which then took the name of New Buckenham, to diſtinguiſh it from Old Buckenham, which then had that addition for the ſame reaſon. He, or his ſucceſſors, very early got it to be a burgh, with the following privileges, which were allowed in 1285, viz. view of frank-pledge, aſſiſe of bread and ale, a gallows, and a market every Saturday, with the market-court, or burgage, then worth 5s. per ann. and kept before the capital ſteward every Saturday, who was judge of all weights and meaſures, and every thing belonging to the market, and of all debts contracted or acknowledged in the market, or precinct of the burgh, and of all ſuch debts under that ſum in which any reſident of the burgh was concerned, and had power to fine and levy, as amply as the ſheriff in the hundred-court; and alſo a fair in the ſaid burgh every St. Martin's day, with a court thereto belonging, called the War-pound court†, the

† This was appendant to Shropham hundred, and now belongs to it. In 1665 Robert Wilton, eſq. then lord, held his court, called the War-pound Court, at New Buckenham, upon St. Martin's day, the rents being due in the morning of St. Martin the Biſhop, which are an half-penny, and no more, for each rent, for divers freehold tenements lying all over the hundred, the total of which amounts to but 8d. ob.

rents being due and payable that morning; and alſo liberty of free-warren in the demeſnes and manors of Buckenham-caſtle, in the Buckenhams, Beſthorpe, and Attleburgh; alſo a priſon for all offenders in the burgh, in the toll-houſe ‡ there.

The whole of this town belonged to the caſtle, and paſſed as that did till Shropham hundred was ſold from it, and afterwards forfeited to the crown, and the War-pound court with it, and then that was in the Lovells, and the market-court, or burgage, in the Knevets.

In 1572 Thomas Lovell, eſq. had one manor, and Thomas Knevet, eſq. the other; the War-pound court went with the hundred, and ſtill remains with it; the market-court, or burgage, was ſold by the Knevets. It afterwards belonged to Eldred, and Verdon; and after that was ſettled on feoffees, for the uſe of the curate, and by virtue thereof the high-bailiff receives the profits.

Here

‡ Placita Corone, Coram, &c. 1285, Robert Ganel, of Buckenham, and Richard, ſon of William de Buckenham, fought in New Buckenham, and Robert gave Richard a blow with a ſtaff on the head, ſo that he died the third day after; upon which he was ſeized, and carried to the court of Robert de Tateſhale, at Buckenham-caſtle, who did not commit him to cuſtody in the caſtle, but had him delivered to Nigell, ſon of William de Buckenham, his chief ſteward, (or high bailiff, as they are now called) who impriſoned him in the toll-houſe there. The chief ſteward was elected by the lord of the caſtle for a long time, till ſome of them gave liberty to the inhabitants to elect their high bailiff yearly, which they do to this day.

Here were many lands, rents, and tenements, which belonged to the priory, all which were ſeized by the crown, and granted to divers perſons, as the Lovells, Knevets, &c.

In 1609 John Eldred, eſq. and John Verdon, gent. had a grant of the Outſoken* MANOR of the PRIORY, now called Priory Manor, (the Knevets reſerving to themſelves the Inſoken of that manor, or all that part of it which is now called the Priory Manor, and goes with the Great Manor, and lies in Old Buckenham, which is the reaſon that there are two manors called the priory at this time) together with the market-court, or burgage, all which the Knevets were licenſed to ſell.

* The Out-Soken, at that time, contained the following annual Rents, viz. from lands in the park 6s. 8d. from lands and ſhops in Bokenham-Nova 3s. 6d. from lands in Attleburgh 4d. from the manor of Cratefield, late the earl of Suſſex's, called Cratefield manor, now in the tenure of Simon Smith, 3l. 1s. 7d. ob. from Reymerſton a free rent of 11s. for thoſe lands in the tenure of Ant. Thwaites, and for the rents, and tithes of the lands in Attleburgh, 6s. 6d. from a tenement and void piece of ground belonging to William Watts, eſq. 13s. 4d. from Toppe's land in Buckenham, 13s. 4d. from lands in Burſton, Tibbenham, and Giſſing, 33s. 6d. ob. from the manor of Snettiſham, and the ſcite of the manor, called Hawkins, there, 11l. 12s. 8d. from the manor of Walpole, in Norfolk, 43l. 5s. 11d. 1q. (we ſuppoſe the rent of Snettiſham, and Walpole, was ſold off before it was ſettled on the inhabitants) together with the profits of the market-court, or burgage, of New Buckenham, valued at 5s. per ann. and theſe were feoffees of this priory manor (Out-Soken) viz. Thomas Kendall, gent. John Gooch, gent. Thomas Colman, gent. William Kendall, gent. and Robert Murton.

The temporal poſſeſſions of the prior of New Buckenham, in 1428, were taxed at 34s. 3d.

In 1603 there were 220 communicants; and in Blomfield's time 400 inhabitants. It paid clear to every tenth 4l. 3s. and is now aſſeſſed at 558l. 13s. 4d. to the land-tax; it is a compact burgh, of ſmall bounds, having a Saturday market (which of late years is much decayed) and an annual fair on St. Martin's day, according to the grants before mentioned; at firſt it had but few inhabitants to what it hath at preſent, as is evident from the chapel of St. Mary, which was then their only place for ſervice, and no large one, but as it increaſed, ſir Robert de Tateſhale, lord of the caſtle, who died in 1248, founded a church, dedicated to St. Martin, on the north ſide of the burgh, where it now ſtands, and gave it to the priory, the ſacriſt of which was to the diſſolution the pariſh prieſt; he had a cerain ſalary* allowed him by the inhabitants, for which the prior was taxed at 20s. and other houſes, or lands, given to him as ſacriſt, or ſerving chaplain, for which he was taxed at 13s. and after this was founded the chapel of St. Mary continued to be ſerved as formerly, by a cuſtos and brethren, at the prior's appointment, who dwelt in their apartment at its weſt end. The preſent church was built at divers times, the nave and chancel being the only (if any) remaining parts of the firſt building. The north aile was built about 1479, by the contribution of ſeveral great men, ſome of whoſe arms ſtill remain in the windows, and of ſuch other perſons as pleaſed to be benefactors. The ſouth aile, porch, and tower, were begun ſoon after, by that ſir John Knevet who

* This is now gathered for the miniſter, and is 3d. in every pound, according to the rent of all the houſes in the pariſh.

who married Clifton's heireſs, and was finiſhed by his grandſon, ſir William Knevet, as the arms in the windows, and on the tower, plainly demonſtrate.

This church is a donative, the miniſter being choſen by the majority of the votes of all the reſidents in the pariſh that pay to the miniſter's rate, and after ſuch choice ſo made, and entered by the church-wardens in the town-book, he is to have a nomination under their hands to the biſhop, in order for a licence, which being obtained, unleſs that be recalled, it is a cure for life.

There is a convenient houſe, garden, and out-houſes, for the miniſter's dwelling, who hath an eſtate in Suffolk, and part of the George Inn, in New Buckenham, the Priory Manor, and the rate of 3d. in the pound, &c. ſettled for his maintenance.

The nave is leaded, having a neat ſquare tower, with a clock and five bells in it, joined to the weſt end, on which the following arms are carved in free-ſtone, over the weſt door, viz. William de Bohun, earl of Northampton; Humphrey de Bohun, his ſon and heir; Stafford; Holland, viz. France and England quartered, in a bordure; Lynnes; Knevet and Cailly quartered; Knevet quartered with Pally, a bordure charged with Roundells; Albany; Knevet and Clifton quartered; Knevet and Heveningham quartered; Knevet and Clifton, with a canton.

The north aile is leaded, and hath a chantry parted from the reſt, with handſome carved ſcreens.

This chapel belonged to St. Mary's guild, and was made when the aile was built, as the arms of Cromwell, Tateſhale, Mortimer, &c. plainly ſhew us, they

being in the windows of the aile as beneſactors, together with De-la-Pole, quartering arg. a chief gul. over all a lion ramp. or. Howard and Brotherton quartered; Vere and Howard quartered; Clifton and Cailly quartered.—There are alſo ſhields of various arms, viz. Mortimer, Courtney, the arms of the priory, Tateſhale, De-la-Pole, Bardolph, Cailly, Fitz-Walter, &c.

The chancel is tiled; on the north ſide is an in-arched monument, in which is an altar-tomb: the arms, inſcription, and effigy of a woman, with a label from her mouth, are all loſt. This is the tomb of ſir Thomas Knevet, of Buckenham-Caſtle, and Catherine, his wife, daughter to the earl of Derby.

On a flat ſtone are the arms of Knevet, quartering Cliſton, impaling Grey, quartered with Haſtings, counter-quartering Valence, with a creſcent for difference:—*To Alicia, lady of ſir William Knevet, who died April* 4, 1474.

Several inſcriptions are loſt, the braſſes being reaved.

There are many old ſtones without inſcriptions, under which divers of the family of the Knevets lie buried; "an ancient houſe (ſaith Cambden) ever ſince ſir John Knevet was lord chancellor of England, under Edward III. and alſo honorably allied by great marriages; for over and beſides theſe of Buckenham, now baronets, from hence ſprung thoſe right worſhipful knights, ſir Thomas Knevet, lord Knevet, ſir Henry Knevet, of Wiltſhire, ſir Thomas Knevet, of Aſhwellthorpe, and others."

Here

Here are alſo mural and flat ſtones to the memory of Collet, Kendall, Barber, Warne, Wade, Crowe, &c.

The windows of the ſouth aile were beautifully adorned with ſeveral arms, inſcriptions, and effigies, ſeveral of which are broken, though there are ſome remaining whole.

In the eaſt window of the chapel, at the upper end of the aile, were the effigies of its founder, and his three wives, viz. firſt, Alice Grey, of Ruthyn; ſecond, Joan, daughter of Humphry Stafford, duke of Buckingham; and third, Joan, daughter of Thomas Courtney, relict of ſir Roger Clifford; all which, with ſir William Knevet, their huſband, are buried in the chancel.

The following arms are in the windows:—Knevet; Stafford; Wingfield; Jenney, impaled with Wedley, or Wederup; Knevet, Cailly, and Clifton, quartered; Grey; Haſtings, quartering Valence; Humphry earl of Stafford; Bohun earl of Northampton; Courtney; Beauford earl of Somerſet, and Bohun earl of Northampton, impaled; Clifton; Albany; Fitz-Alan; Tateſhale; Cailly and Tateſhale quartered, &c.

In the eaſt window of the aile theſe arms remain: Knevet, quartering Cailly; Grey, quartering Haſtings, counter-quartering Valence; Holland, England, and France, quartered, in a bordure, arg. quartering the earl of Northampton; Wyngfield, mixed with Bohun and Stafford; Courtney, quartering per bend, az. and or. a lion ramp. counter-changed, impaling France and England in a bordure, gobone arg. & az. Clifton, quartering Albany; Cailly, quartering Tateſhale.

In

In 1774 the Rev. John France was preſented to the curacy of Buckenham St. Martin's, nominated by the inhabitants.

BUCKENHAM, OLD, received its name from the number of Bucks with which the woods here formerly abounded, Bucham, Buckham, and Buckenham, being plainly the village of bucks, and not of beech-trees, as Mr. Camden imagined, there being none of them in this county, as ſir Henry Spelman rightly obſerves, and the additional title of Old was afterwards added, to diſtinguiſh it from New Buckenham, which was taken out of it; it is wrote Bucham in Doomſday-book.

Ralph Gauder, earl of Norfolk, owned the whole town (except the carucate which belonged to Bury abbey) in the Confeſſor's time. In the Conqueror's time it was worth 6l. 13s. 4d. and two ſextaries of honey, and when all was joined, it was riſen to 32l. 13s. 4d. and 20s. as a preſent, or gift; it was two miles long, and as much broad, and paid 19d. gelt, or tax, out of every 20s. raiſed on the hundred. This earl fled the realm, and ſo forfeited all his eſtate to the Conqueror, who owned it at the ſurvey, when it was one of his manors that he intruſted earl Godric with the management of. At this time there were only two pariſhes, viz. All Saints, and St. Andrew's, and a caſtle which ſtood juſt by the abbey. The land on which New Buckenham was after built, was that part of St. Andrew's pariſh which belonged to the biſhop of Thetford's manor of Eccles, and was called Biſhop's-Haugh, the tithes of which now are, and always were paid to the rector of Eccles, the land belonging to that manor originally, and the biſhop granting them to the domeſtic chaplain of his palace

palace at Eccles, to whom he generally gave that rectory.

The Conqueror gave the caſtle and manor, and all that belonged to earl Ralph, to William de Albany (Albini, Albigny, de Albenio) who came into England with him, together with Wymondham, Snettiſham, and Kenninghall, to be held by the ſervice of being butler to the kings of England on the day of their coronation, for which reaſon he was always ſtiled *Pincerna Regis*, or the king's butler; he founded Wymondam abbey, where he was buried before the high altar, by Maud, his wife, daughter of Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk, with whom he had ten knights fees in Norfolk, of earl Roger's gift; he was ſon of Roger de Albini, by Amy de Molbray, his wife, and brother to that famous Nigell de Albini, whoſe poſterity aſſumed that name of Mowbray, or Molbray, from that of his mother.

William, his eldeſt ſon, ſucceded him, he was called *William with the ſtrong hand*, becauſe, among other valiant exploits, he ſlew a fierce lion. The occaſion was thus, as Mr. Dugdale relates: " It hap-
" pened that the queen of France, being then a wi-
" dow, and a very beautiful woman, became much
" in love with a knight of that country, who was a
" comely perſon, and in the flower of his youth;
" and becauſe ſhe thought that no man excelled him
" in valor, ſhe cauſed a tournament to be pro-
" claimed throughout her dominions, promiſing a
" reward to thoſe who ſhould exerciſe themſelves
" therein, according to their reſpective merits; and
" concluding, that if the perſon whom ſhe ſo well
" affected ſhould act his part better than others in
" thoſe military exerciſes, ſhe might marry him with-
" out any diſhonor to herſelf.

" Hereupon

" Hereupon divers gallant men from foreign parts " haſting to Paris, among others came this William " de Albini, bravely accoutred, and in the tourna- " ment excelled all others, overcoming many, and " wounding one mortally with his launce; which " being obſerved by the queen, ſhe became exceed- " ingly enamoured of him, and forthwith invited " him to a coſtly banquet, and afterwards beſtowing " certain jewels upon him, offered him marriage; " but having plighted his troth to the queen of Eng- " land, then a widow, he refuſed her: whereat ſhe " grew ſo diſcontented, that ſhe conſulted with her " maids how ſhe might take away his life; and in " purſuance of that deſign enticed him into a gar- " den, where there was a ſecret cave, and in it a " fierce lion, into which ſhe deſcended by divers " ſteps, under colour of ſhewing him the beaſt. " And when ſhe told him of his fierceneſs, he an- " ſwered, that it was a womaniſh, and not a manly " quality to be afraid thereof; but having him there, " by the advantage of a folding door, thruſt him in " to the lion. Being therefore in this danger, he " rolled his mantle about his arm, and putting his " hand into the mouth of the beaſt, pulled out his " tongue by the root; which done, he followed the " queen to her palace, and gave it to one of her " maids to preſent to her.

" Returning therefore into England, with the " fame of this glorious exploit, he was forthwith ad- " vanced to the earldom of Arundel, and for his " arms had the lion given him; nor was it long after " that the queen of England accepted him for her " huſband, whoſe name was Adeliza, (or Alice) wi- " dow of Henry I. and daughter to Godfrey duke of " Lorrain; which Adeliza had the caſtle of Arundel,

and

and county, in dower from that king"*. In the beginning of the reign of Henry II. he not only obtained the caſtle, and honor of Arundel, to himſelf and his heirs, but alſo a confirmation of the earldom of Suſſex, granted to him by the third penny of the pleas of that county, which in ancient times was the uſual way of inveſting ſuch great men in the poſſeſſion of any earldom, after thoſe ceremonies of girding with the ſword, and putting on the robes were performed, which have ever, till of late, been thought eſſential to their creation.

In the time of king Stephen he founded the abbey here, and built the preſent caſtle, as you may ſee in the accounts of them, and dying in 1176, was buried by his father, at Wymondham.

Robert de Tateſhale, in right of Mabel his wife, who was the eldeſt ſiſter of Hugh de Albany, earl of Arundel and Suſſex, had the caſtle and manors of Buckenham, Wymondham, &c. for their capital ſeat.

John Fitz-Alan, and Iſabel his wife, who was fourth ſiſter, had Arundel caſtle, manor, &c. for their capital ſeat.

Roger de Somery, who married Nicholea, the third ſiſter, had Barwe, in Leiceſterſhire, &c. for their chief ſeat.

Roger

* Our readers, we hope, will hold us excuſable in giving them this *wonderful* ſtory, but a bare narration of local hiſtory is rather dull to many, if not accompanied with ſomething of the *marvellous*. Inſtruction is beſt conveyed *with* the idea of entertainment.

Roger de Montealt, who married Cecily, the ſecond ſiſter, had the caſtle of Riſing, with the manors of Kenninghall, Snettiſham, &c. for their principal ſeat, together with the hundred of Smithdon, and the fourth part of the Tollbooth at Lynn, which was now divided into four parts, ſo that a fourth part attended each of the inheritances; and thus the caſtle and manor came to ſir Robert de Tateſhale, who made it his principal ſeat. He was deſcended from Eudo, who with Pinco, his ſworn brother in war, (though no other way related) came into England with duke William, and merited ſo well from him in that ſervice, that in recompence thereof he gave them the lordſhip of Tateſhale, &c. in Lincolnſhire, to be equally ſhared between them.

Sir Robert de Tateſhale, his father, was ſo great a benefactor to Buckenham priory, that the canons of that houſe altered their common ſeal, and put in his arms along with their founder's. Among other things, he gave the church of St. Martin, in New Buckenham, with the advowſon of the church of Gunneby, for a yearly pittance*. He left ſir Robert de Tateſhale, who married Mabel aforeſaid, his ſon and heir, who granted to the canons here liberty of foldage for 200 ſheep in Attleburgh, with free paſturage for them there, and 53 acres of arable land in Buckenham, beſides other gifts. In Lovell's book, in the Exchequer, he is found to hold this caſtle and manor by the ſervice of the Botelry.

Sir

* Pittances were ſmall portions at meals, added to the common allowance of the monks, and in moſt religious houſes the care of them belonged to an officer for that purpoſe, called Pittanciarus.

Sir Robert de Tateſhale, his grandſon, in 1285, had view of frankpledge, free-warren, gallows, and a Saturday market, aſſize of bread, and ale, and a fair yearly on St. Martin's day, and another market every Thurſday in Attleburgh, belonging to his manor of Buckenham caſtle, and Plaſſing-hall, in Beſthorpe.

In an old roll, about this time, it appears that there were many manors held by knight's ſervice of this caſtle by ſcutage, or in ſoccage. Sir Robert died in 1297, leaving his eſtate to ſir Robert his ſon and heir, whoſe ſon, Robert de Tateſhale, died a minor, without iſſue, in 1305, leaving his inheritance to be divided among his three aunts, or their heirs. Emma, or Amy, married ſir Oſbert de Cailly, knt. Joan, ſir Robert de Driby, knt. and Iſabel, ſir John de Orreby, knt. among whom the eſtate was divided.

Thomas de Cailly, ſon of ſir Oſbert, had livery of his mother's inheritance in 1306, when he had Buckenham-caſtle, and the advowſon of the priory there, the fourth part of the manor, and the half parts of other manors thereto belonging, and a part of ſeveral manors in Norfolk. He died in 1316, leaving Adam, ſon of ſir Roger de Clifton, by Margaret, his only ſiſter, his heir.

Joan de Driby had the caſtle of Tateſhale, &c. and the eighth part of Buckenham manor, &c. and the rent of two ſparrows, or ſpar-hawks, in Old and New Buckenham, &c. all which this Joan, then widow of Robert de Driby, left to William Bernak, who died about 1340, ſeiſed of the third part of Wymondham, and Buckenham manors, and the third part of Plaſſing-hall, or Plaſſet's, in Attleburgh, and Beſthorpe.

John

John de Orreby, with Iſabel his wife, had, among others, the manor of Tibbenham, in Norfolk, (except the third part of the park, which Thomas de Cailly held, in part of his portion) and the eighth part of Buckenham manor, in recompence of the eighth part of the parks of Buckenham, which was aſſigned to the ſaid Thomas, and the eighth part of the lands in Attleburgh, viz. 19 meſſuages, &c. in Attleburgh, Buckenham, Beſthorpe, Ellingham, and Tibbenham. Philip de Orreby was their ſon and heir, whoſe grandſon, John de Orreby, died in 1352. Joan de Orreby, his ſole daughter and heireſs, married firſt to ſir Henry Percy, who died in 1367, and after to ſir Conſtantine Cliſton; ſhe had one daughter, Mary Percy, her ſole heireſs, who was married to ſir John Roos, of Hamlake, knt. but died, without iſſue, before her mother.

In 1360 ſir Ralph de Cromwell, knt. in right of Maud Bernak, his wife, became lord of the manors of Hetherſet, Plaſſinghall, in Beſthorpe, Denton, &c. all which (except Hetherſet) were held of the king in capite, as parcel of the barony of Tateſhale; he had his parts of Buckenham, Wymondham, and Shropham hundred, for which he did homage to the king, and had livery thereof.

In 1394 a writ was directed to John Knevet, eſcheator of Norfolk, to divide the lands.

Sir Ralph died in 1398, and Ralph (afterwards lord Cromwell) was his grandſon, and heir. He was afterwards lord Treaſurer, but having no iſſue, at his death, in 1455, his three aunts became his heirs, viz. Elizabeth, married to ſir John Clifton, Hawiſe, to Thomas lord Bardolph. and Maud, to John Fitz-Williams, and they inherited his whole eſtate.

We

We muſt now return to the Cliftons, who all along held the caſtle, and the beſt part of the manor, from the year 1316 to the year 1490, when ſir Robert Clifton, knt. died without iſſue male, leaving his eſtate to ſir William Knevet, knt. who married Elizabeth, ſiſter, and at length heireſs to ſir John Clifton, the laſt male of the elder branch.

Sir John Clifton, knt. of Buckenham-caſtle, in 1373, had livery of all his lands. He was ſummoned to parliament from 1375 to 1388, when he died at Rhodes, leaving Conſtantine his ſon and heir, who married Elizabeth, one of the co-heireſſes of Ralph lord Cromwell, by which match that part of Buckenham, &c. which ſhe had for her ſhare, united again.

His grandſon, ſir John Clifton, knt. who died in 1447, gave to the high altar of the church of St. Martin, at New Buckenham, 40s. ten marks, to repair the church, and ten marks to the guild of the Bleſſed Virgin, in that church, and many other benefactions. He had only one daughter, viz. Margaret Clifton, who married ſir Andrew Ogard, of Buckenham-caſtle, knt. Sir Andrew died in 1454, without iſſue, and the whole eſtate reverted to Elizabeth, aunt to the ſaid Margaret, who married ſir John Knevet, knt. but yet in 1459 Alice, firſt widow of ſir Andrew Ogard, knt. then of ſir Hugh Cokeſſey, of Cokeſſey, in Worceſterſhrie, held the caſtle and manors to her death, in 1460.

John Fitz-Williams, lord of Elmly, and Spotſburgh, in Yorkſhire, married Maud, one of the co-heireſſes of Ralph lord Cromwell, and in her right had a third part of the third part of the manor.

William Fitz-Williams, eſq. of Elmly, dying without iſſue in 1516, left his two aunts his heirs; Margaret, married to Thomas Southill, of Southill-Hall, in Yorkſhire, and Dorothy, to ſir William Cropley, of Spotſburgh, knt. but as the chief, if not all this part, was united to the other, by different purchaſes, it will be needleſs to trace their deſcendents any further, the whole being united in the Knevets.

Sir John Knevet, knt. of Buckenham-caſtle, married Elizabeth, ſiſter, and at length heireſs of ſir John Clifton, knt. and in 1461 held the caſtle and manors of Old and New Buckenham. He was grandſon to ſir John Knevet, knt. lord chancellor of England in 1371. He left ſir John Knevet, knt. his ſon and heir, whoſe ſon, ſir William Knevet, knt. in 1483, was attainted by the name of ſir William Knevet, knt. of Buckenham, *conjuror*, together with the earl of Richmond, John earl of Oxford, &c. in the parliament ſummoned the 25th of January, in the 1ſt of Richard III. as being partakers with Henry earl of Richmond (afterwards Henry VII.) which coſt him a good part of his eſtate, for he conveyed to that king his caſtle and manor of Buckenham, the manors of Old Buckenham, Carleton, and Tibbenham, which he had again when that monſter was taken off, and then alſo he was forced to convey to ſir James Tirrell, that king's great favourite, and then conſtable of the Tower, his manors of Hilborough, and two parts of Griſhaugh, in Wymondham. He had three wives, all of noble families. Edmund Knevet, his ſon and heir, was unfortunately drowned in Britain-bay, in a ſea-fight; the ſhip he belonged to, called the Regent of England, was burned. He left ſeveral ſons; Edmund Knevet, his ſecond ſon, was ſerjeant-porter to Henry VIII. Sir Thomas Knevet, of Buckenham-caſtle, his eldeſt ſon, was ſtandard-bearer to Henry VIII.

VIII. of whom he got a grant of the priory at its diſſolution, with its appurtenances in Old and New Buckenham, viz. St. Andrew's, and All Saints churches, the priory manor, &c. all which continued in the family till ſir Philip Knevet ſold them. He married Muriel, daughter of Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, by whom ſir Edmund Knevet was his eldeſt ſon. He was ſucceeded by his ſon and heir, ſir Thomas Knevet, who died September 22, 1569, and gave 40s. to repair the church of New Buckenham. He left ſir Thomas, his ſon, who had ſir Philip Knevet, of Buckenham-caſtle, his ſon and heir. He was ſheriff of Norfolk in 1650, created baronet June 29, 1651, and for 18,508l. 10s. he ſold to Hugh Audley, and his heirs, the caſtle and priory of Old Buckenham, the manors of old Buckenham, viz. the Caſtle manor, Lathes, alias Laches, the Priory and the Cloſe manors, the manor, or burgage of New Buckenham, Tateſhale, or Tibbenham, or Tibbenham-hall, otherwiſe Tibbenham Knevet's, otherwiſe Carleton Rode, and the tythes of all the premiſes in Buckenham, by deed, dated June 25, 1649.

Hugh Audley, aforeſaid, was ſheriff of Norfolk, and dying without iſſue, left three ſiſters; Sarah, married Robert Harvey, of London, comptroller of the Cuſtom-houſe. His ſon and heir, William, had three ſons, Robert, Hugh, and Benjamin, each of whom inherited a third part.

Ambroſe Holbech, of Mallington, in Warwickſhire, married Sarah Harvey, and became poſſeſſed of that third part which was her brother Benjamin's; and about 1693 partition was made between Ambroſe his ſon, who had got Hugh's part alſo, and Robert Harvey, of Low Layton, in Eſſex. At his death he left his part to John Harvey, eſq. his ſon and heir.

He built the ſeat at Old Bukenham, called St. Andrew's, becauſe it was built juſt by the ſcite of St. Andrew's church, which is now turned into a barn, and ſettled there, and at his death left Robert Harvey, eſq. his only ſon, who was lord and owner of that part, and Ambroſe Holbech, eſq. was lord of the other two third parts.

Buckenham St. Andrew's is now the ſeat of Francis Head, eſq. late captain of a company in the Weſtern battalion of Norfolk militia.

The park is a very ancient one, for the founder of the monaſtery here, among other donations, allowed the monks the privilege of taking wood in his park, in this town; and in 1242 the king ſent his writ to the keepers of the lands of Hugh de Albany, earl of Arundel, that they ſhould deliver to Robert de Tateſhale two bucks of his gift, out of the park lately belonging to the ſaid Hugh, in his town of Buckenham. It was after ſeparated from the manor, and in 1626 one Long, of Hingham, at the requeſt, or by the order of the honourable Mary lady Hunſdon, late wife of the lord Hunſdon, conveyed all his right in it to ſir Thomas Holland, of Kenning-hall*; but it was in various truſtees' hands, and incumbered, till the title was perfected by John Holland, of Wortwell, eſq. from which time it hath paſſed in this family, and, according to Mr. Blomfield, ſtill remains in the heireſſes of ſir William Holland, knt.

In 1620 ſir Thomas Holland, knt. purchaſed much of Henry viſcount Rochford.

There

* They holding it by mortgage from the Lovells, who ſold it to the Hollands.



M. Armstrong del.

Page sculp.

Is most respectfully inscribd to Francis Head Esqr.

There were ſeveral other manors here, as Buckenham's manor, the Cloſe manor, Lathe's manor, the burgage of New Buckenham, and the priory manor.

Buckenham manor belonged to Bury abbey, and continued in it till the abbot of that monaſtery infeoffed William de Buckenham, who was to hold it at half a fee, and pay 14d. every twenty weeks to the guard of Norwich-caſtle. It continued in this family (all of them being Williams) till 1345, and in that year William de Buckenham paid 20s. relief for it. How it went from them, and when, we do not find, but in 1401 it was divided into ſmall parcels; for in the *feodary* of that year Adam Cock, of Buckenham, and his partner's, held it.

CATCHEVACHES, CACHEVACHES, now CATSWACHES MANOR, belonged to William de Schoies, in the Conqueror's time, of whom Roger held it.

In the beginning of the reign of Henry III. Thomas de Brockdiſh, Robert de Weaſenham, and Thomas de Barnham, held it of the honor of Clare. In 1290 William Cachevache had it. In 1401 Maud de Mounteney, then a minor, held it. In 1426 it was John Rookwood's, and others. In 1533 Hugh Wilkenſon, and others, had Catchvache's manor, in Old and New Buckenham, &c. ſettled on them by William Gradbach, or Catſwatch. In 1600 Hugh Wilkenſon was lord, ſince which time it hath paſſed through many hands, who have ſold off moſt (if not all) its rents. It ſome time belonged to the Sorrels, and now (ſee Blomfield) to Mr. Edward Philips, of Banham, who owns the ſcite of it, which is now called Catchvache's meadow.

The CLOSE MANOR was part of the great manor till the diviſion of it, and then it became a ſeparate manor, and had inſoken and outſoken juries, with a leet, and the profit of part of the market, and ſtalls, in Wymondham; a moiety of it in 1383 belonged to the prior of Buckenham, who hired the other moiety of the ſeveral lords, for that moiety divided into parts with the great manor, and went from the Cromwells to the Fitz-Williams, and from them to the Knevets.

It lay in Buckenham, Attleburgh, Beſthorpe, and Wymondham, and was held by part of the Botelry. From the Knevets it came to the Lovells, for in 1565 Thomas Lovell, held the Cloſe manor, &c. of the queen; but by 1612 it belonged again to the Knevets, for then ſir Philip Knevet, bart. delivered ſeiſin of the ſcite of it to Gabriel Pope, M. D. and Thomas Talbot, gent. at which time, we ſuppoſe, the rents and ſervices of the manor were either joined to the other manors, or all manumiſed. How the ſcite paſſed afterwards we cannot ſay, but are informed that it now belongs to the Windhams.

The LAYS, LEES, LATHES, or GRAINGE MANOR, had its riſe out of the great manor, at the ſame time with the Cloſe manor, and in 1383 the prior had a moiety of it along with that manor. In 1400 the other moiety was divided; it had a leet belonging to it, and a fair to be kept on St. Martin's day, at New-Buckenham; the mere, called Seamere, or Old Buckenham mere, belonged to it. The ſcite and demeſnes called the Lathes, or Lays, was held of the queen, in 1564, by Thomas Lovell, eſq. but the whole manor was united to the reſt by the Knevets, ſir Thomas Knevet being lord of the united manors of Lathes, the Cloſe, the Priory, and burgage of New Buckenham, in 1594.

The

The PRIORY MANOR was part of the great manor given to the priory at its foundation, and continued in it to its diſſolution, when it paſſed with that houſe to ſir Thomas Knevet, of Buckenham, in whoſe family it continued till ſir Philip Knevet ſold it to John Eldred, of London, eſq. and John Verdon, gent. and after many conveyances it was ſettled on the miniſter of New Buckenham, for the time being, who is always lord of it.

The caſtle was firſt ſituated by the abbey, on the eaſt part; the ſcite of it contains about three acres: it is a large entrenchment, ſurrounded with a deep moat, the hills being ſtill entire. On the north ſide is an old arch, which ſerved for a ſewer when it was ſtanding. This was in ſome decay when William de Albany pulled it down, and built the priory with its ruins, (which is the reaſon that there are none remaining) and gave the ſcite of it to that houſe, and then removed to a far better ſituation in St. Andrew's pariſh, the eaſtern part of which belonged to the biſhop of Norwich, and was part of his manor of Eccles, kept in his own hands to ſerve his palace there, notwithſtanding which the earl procured the land which was part of the haugh of William Turbus, biſhop of Norwich, (who greatly favored his foundation) to be held as freely as the old caſtle was before the priory's foundation, (the tithes only excepted) and on this part he built the caſtle, and founded his burgh, called New Buckenham, cloſe by it, having obtained licence ſo to do. It is pleaſantly ſituated upon a hill, fortified with a deep moat, which remains entire, and full of water. The building is quite demoliſhed, and ploughed over, except part of the gatehouſe, and a dungeon, or *keep*, which all thoſe places had; it is 63 yards round, and and the walls about ten feet thick, and though it is not higher now than

the entrenchment, we ſuppoſe it was formerly the upper part of thoſe keeps, generally being watch towers. It is divided in the midſt by a croſs wall. The Knevets dwelt in this caſtle till it was demoliſhed by ſir Philip, who ſold it.

The Priory, now called the abbey, was founded by William de Albany, earl of Chicheſter, ſirnamed the Strong, who died in 1156, and by him dedicated to the honor of God, St. Mary, St. James the Apoſtle, and all the Saints, in which he placed black canons of the order of St. Auguſtine, who were governed by a prior, elected by the major part of them, and confirmed by the biſhop of Norwich, after which he was inſtalled. They were daily to pray for the ſoul of their founder, and of *queen* Adeliza, (or Alice) his wife, for the ſouls of Stephen king of England, and Maud his queen, and their progeny, and for the ſouls of all his anceſtors, ſucceſſors, parents, friends, and benefactors. They were governed by ſtatutes, allowed by the biſhop of Norwich, by whoſe advice it was founded; but they were in all things to follow the inſtitution, or rules of the church of St. Mary, at Merton. He endowed it with the rectories of the churches of All-Saints, and St. Andrew's, belonging to his manor of Buckenham, which were immediately appropriated to it, and they took their whole revenues, the canons ſerving them, and alſo the ſcite of the caſtle, which was to be pulled down, twenty acres of land, and the wood called little Hage, and Midcrofts, with the adjoining meadow, and New Croft before the caſtle gate, (on which the abbey was built, &c.) and afterwards he got the foundation confirmed by the king, and biſhop. William de Albany, ſon of the founder, gave them the advowſon of Kenninghall; Richard de Scenges, St. Mary's church, at Barwick; Peter de Cley, St. Peter's, at Cley-thorpe, now

now Cockley-Cley; and Robert de Tateſhale, Gunby, and a piece of land called Monkwell, for a pittance, as has been obſerved. Beſides theſe churches, many perſons were liberal benefactors, in lands, &c. all which grants were confirmed by the king, in 1337.

In 1428 the prior's temporals in Old Buckenham were taxed at 22l. 16s. 10d. ob. The total of the ſpirituals of this houſe, lying in Norfolk, were taxed at 77l. 13s. 4d. and paid 5l. 15s. 8d. every tenth. The total of their temporals in Norfolk were taxed at 52l. 9d. ob. and paid 5l. 4s. 1d. every tenth. The whole of their temporals and ſpirituals at this time being taxed at 109l. 14s. 1d. ob. and ſo paid every tenth 10l. 19s. 9d. At the diſſolution it was valued at 131l. 11s. per ann. In 1479 they had lands in all the Buckenhams, &c. In 1746 the biſhop certified the barons of the Exchequer, that the prior of Buckenham held, impropriated to that houſe, the churches of St. Benedict, in Norwich, of Gryſton, in Breccles Deanry, of Bukenham All-Saints, St. Andrew's, and St. Martin's, St. Peter of Cley, and Weſt Bradenham, in Cranewiſe deanry, and Barwick, in Hicham deanry, and that they have been ſo held ever ſince 1177, and before, even from its foundation; and that the prior always pays all taxes granted by the clergy to the king for thoſe churches, there being no vicars endowed upon any of them. The ſcite of the priory, after the diſſolution, was granted to ſir Thomas Knevet, and went with the priory manor, in that family, and is now owned by Mr. Holbech. (*Vide* Blomfield).

There are very few ruins remaining, the walls of the church are quite down, but the foundations may be eaſily traced. It was in the conventual form, with the tower in the middle, and had a nave, two ailes, two tranſepts, a choir, and north veſtry; the monaſtery

tery ſtood on the north ſide of it, and was a good ſquare court. On the wood work of an old gate are the arms of Albany carved, which looks very old. We have ſeen a piece of ſilver which was found in diging in the ruins of the church, anno 1723, which has a ſhield of arms, on which is a feſs between two chev'rons; a canton erm. impales quarterly a bend; this looks as if it had been buried with its owner.

John Mylegate, or Millgate, prior, Richard Ryntwz, and five others, ſubſcribed to the ſupremacy. This John was the laſt prior, and reſigned the houſe to the king. Sir Thomas Browne, &c. were canons at the reſignation.

In 1493 the monaſtery, then full, conſiſted of a prior, an auditor, (who was not a religious, but one appointed by the lord to audit their annual accompts) and ten canons, who yearly received for their ſtipends 40s. each, beſides their maintenance and cloathing; out of theſe, a ſub-prior, ſacriſt, and celerer, were yearly choſen. The temporal officers of the houſe were the ſteward of their courts, a hey-ward, wood-ward, and janitor, conſtantly attending at the monaſtery gates. They yearly received for the total income of the monaſtery about 110l. and diſburſed about 100l.

The Rev. author of a topographical eſſay gives us here a detail of the yearly rents, annual out-goings, ſpiritual out-goings, &c. of this priory, which we purpoſely omit, as tedious and unintereſting.

The chapel of St. Mary the Virgin, in Old Buckenham, was founded ſoon after the caſtle, by the lords of it, and was ſupplied by a cuſtos and two or three chaplains, his brethren, who had their dwelling at the weſt end of it, and conſtantly ſerved there; it was

was the only place of worſhip that the burgh of New Buckenham had till the preſent church was founded, which was ſome time after the chapel; at the diſſolution it came to the lord's hands, and not long afterwards was converted into a barn, as it now remains. It ſtands on the ſouth ſide of the caſtle, cloſe by the road, as you enter New Buckenham. The advowſon was given by the founder to the priory, and the lands belonging to the chapel were lett in 1484 at 5l. 4s. 7d.

The church of St. Andrew, in Old Buckenham, was a rectory belonging to the manor till the foundation of the priory, to which it was given by the founder, and then appropriated to it, without any vicar endowed, the monks ſerving it themſelves to the diſſolution, when it was granted to ſir Thomas Knevet, along with the priory, and ſoon after was defecrated, and converted into a barn. It is juſt by Mr. Head's ſeat, which is called St. Andrew's. It was taxed at 20s. and paid 2s. every tenth.

In 1557 the rectory-houſe and glebes lett at 3l. 16s. per annum.

The church of All Saints, in Old Buckenham, is the preſent pariſh church; this was alſo a rectory appendant to the manor, and given by the founder to the priory, to which it was then appropriated, but no vicar endowed; it was ſerved by the monks, who found a ſtipendiary curate there till the diſſolution, when it was granted with the priory to ſir Thomas Knevet, who received all the profits, and found a curate to ſerve the pariſh*; and thus it continued in that

* In 1603 the curate here returned anſwer that the number of communicants were 240.

that family till 1611, when it was mortgaged, with the king's licence, along with Knevet's manor, in Tibbenham, to ſir Thomas Herne, knt. After this it was mortgaged ſeveral times, till at laſt ſir Philip Knevet ſold to every one (that would purchaſe them) the tithes of their own lands, and the reſt the pariſh purchaſed, together with the chancel and church-yard, and veſted them in Robert Wright, and John Allen, and their heirs, who reconveyed to ſir Philip all manner of tithes, oblations, &c. which might be due to the ſaid rectory from any of his own land, and all thoſe tithes which they ſold as truſtees to ſir Philip, to Robert Jollie, Jacob Preſton, and the reſt of the pariſhioners that had purchaſed their parts; after which they ſettled the chancel and church-yard of Old Buckenham All Saints, with all the great and ſmall tithes, &c. together with all other temporals whatever belonging thereto, on a great number of feoffees, who were to hold all the rectories of All Saints, and St. Andrew's, (except the church-yard, parſonage-houſe, and glebe lands of St. Andrew's, and of all thoſe tithes which were ſold before this feoffment) with all the tithes of corn, grain, hay, and all other great and ſmall tithes, &c. whatſoever, to them and their heirs, in truſt, to the following uſes: that they, or the major part of them, ſhall for ever nominate, elect, and chooſe, an honeſt, learned miniſter, for and in the name of the town of Old Buckenham aforeſaid, to ſerve in All Saints church once in a week, and perform all ſervices there; who, upon ſuch choice, ſhall be licenſed according to the laws of the realm; after which he ſhall be allowed out of the rectory aforeſaid, an annual ſtipend of 16l. 13s. 4d. to be paid by the feoffees, one half upon every 2d day of February, and the other half upon the 1ſt day of Auguſt, on which days they are to make and produce a juſt account unto ſir Philip Knevet

Knevet and his heirs, and the churchwardens of the town for the time being, and to all the reſt of the inhabitants of the town who ſhall think fit to be there, to ſee the accompts of the whole profits, and what overplus of the profits remains (the ſtipend and charges being deducted) ſhall be by them paid into the churchwardens hands, to be by them employed to repair the chancel, and church-yard walls; and when all the feoffees are dead to five, they ſhall be obliged to make a new feoffment to ten perſons at leaſt, all which ſhall be pariſhioners of this pariſh; and leſt there ſhould ariſe any diſputes concerning the parts ſold off, the lands and tenements ſo diſcharged, with the ſeveral purchaſers names, are mentioned, and all the lands which pay all manner of tithes to the feoffees are ſeparately deſcribed in nine rolls of parchment, annexed to the feoffment, among which the Layes, containing 100 acres, a meſſuage and 100 acres, being the ſcite of Buckenham Cloſe Manor, ſix cloſes thereto belonging, containing 80 acres, 50 acres more belonging to the ſame meſſuage, 24 acres called Broomhill Cloſe, 12 acres called Little Pond's Meadow, 8 acres called Fir-Cloſe, 30 acres called Hawte-Cloſe, in the New Park, 80 acres called Harling-Wood, 16 acres called Thorne-Croft, and 60 acres called Fir-Cloſes, are the largeſt parcels, though there are, beſides theſe, 48 meſſuages and cottages, and 200 acres thereto belonging.

The prior was taxed at thirteen marks for the rectory, and paid 17s. 4d. for it to every tenth.

In 1774 the Rev. John France was licenſed to this curacy.

The church and chancel are thatched, the ſteeple is octangular, there are five bells, and the north aile is leaded.

In

In the chancel lies a ſtone for—*John Welham, gent. who died July* 10, 1713, *aged* 66 *years.*

On a braſs plate, Preſton's arms and creſt:—*Hic requieſcit corpus Jacobi Preſton, genr: qui vitam hanc expiravit in fide Chriſti* LXVI. *ætatis ſuæ, anno Dom.* 1630*.

Another braſs plate,—*Matthew Sturdyvant, gent. who died March* 21, 1604, *aged* 83 *years; he gave by his laſt will, towards the maintenance of a ſchool in this pariſh for ever,* 100*l. and towards three new bells to be bought* 20*l.*†

The arms of St. George, Knevet, and Bury Abbey, are in the windows; alſo Tateſhale and Clifton quarterly; Tateſhale and Clifton impaled with Thorp; Tateſhale; the priory arms; Barry of ten gul. and arg. quartering Cailly; Cromwell, quartering Tateſhale; and Knevet, quartering Clifton.

There are ſeveral angels holding ſome of the arms, with labels from their mouths, viz.—*Salve regina, mater miſericordiæ. Beata Dei genetrix Maria. Ave regina cœlorum, ave domina.*

On hatchments in the chancel, Harvey impales Houblon, alias Vandeprot.

In the dormitory, on the north ſide of the chancel, are the coffins of John Harvey, eſq. Elizabeth, his wife, and ſeveral of their children.

On

* He had a good eſtate here, and was father of ſir Iſaac Preſton, knt. of Beeſton St. Lawrence, in Tunſtead.

† The ſchool is ſtill kept, and (as we are informed) ſomething more is added to the ſtipend.

On a head-ſtone by the ſteeple,—*Here lieth the body of John Grey, gent. ſteward of many manors for (almoſt) ſixty years, faithful to his lords and kind to the tenants; he kept courts, and wrote very fair in the 90th year of his age,* (things rare) *in which he died, upon the 16th day of July, anno Dom.* 1713.

The cuſtoms of the manors are, that the fine is at the lord's will, and the eldeſt ſon is heir.

This town is ſituated round a pleaſant green, the church ſtanding on the eaſt ſide of it, the ſcite of the abbey being north-eaſt, and that of St. Andrew's ſouth-eaſt. There is a fair kept on it every 29th of May*. It is a town of large bounds, for it paid to the tenths 5l. 13s. and is now aſſeſſed at 1996l. to the land tax, hath 105 dwelling-houſes, and about 550 inhabitants.—*Vide* Blomfield.

ECCLES is bounded on the eaſt by Wilby, on the weſt by Larling and Snitterton, on the north by Hargham, and on the ſouth by Quiddenham; it hath one manor only, to which the advowſon of the rectory now is, and always was appendant. It is often called in French deeds, about the time of Edward III. *L'Egliſe*, or, The Church, which hath induced us to think, that it took that name by way of eminence, it being the biſhop's own church, and a place where moſt of them, to the time of Henry VIII. often reſided, in their palace† here, as appears from

* There is no authority for the fair, but cuſtom only. There is a houſe and ground in the town ſettled on the ſchool-maſter, worth 6l. per ann. for which he is obliged to teach four poor children of this pariſh, without any payment for ſo doing.

† The palace is now quite ruined, the moats, foundations, &c. may be ſeen in the low meadows, about a furlong, or more,

from the great number of perſons that were inſtituted at this place, and from the additional name of *Eccles Epiſcopi*, or Biſhop's Eccles, by which it was always diſtinguiſhed from Eccles *by the ſea*.

The manor was very extenſive, including all this town, great part of St. Andrew's pariſh, in Buckenham, or all New Buckenham, and the Haugh in Old Buckenham, beſides lands in moſt of the adjacent pariſhes. It was held by Ralph earl of Norfolk in the Confeſſor's time, who gave it to Egelmar, or Ailmer, biſhop of Elmham, juſt before the conqueſt, who held it of the earl, as did his ſucceſſors. At the ſurvey it was fallen from 5l. value to 3l. and was two miles long, one broad, and paid 7d. gelt. In the record, called *Teſta de Nevil*, it appears that it belonged to the biſhop, but they could not tell whether it was part of his barony, or whether he held it in free alms.

In the year 1200 king John, by his charter under ſeal, dated at Gaytinton, Nov. 28, confirmed to John Grey, chief juſtice of England, and biſhop of Norwich*, his great favourite, and to the church of the Holy Trinity at Norwich, and to the ſucceeding biſhops and monks ſerving God there, all their lands, villages, churches, poſſeſſions, rents, tenements, liberties, and ancient cuſtoms whatſoever, which they had confirmed

more, S. E. of the church. The whole tithes of New Buckenham, and of the lands called the Biſhop's Haugh, or Hawe, in Old Buckenham, are now paid to the rector of Eccles yearly.

* Pope Alexander III. by bull, dated 1176, among other things, confirmed to John biſhop of Norwich "Eccles cum ſoca, &c."

confirmed, and given them in the time of Henry I. and II. and Richard I. and alſo all the charters, deeds, grants, and gifts of all his anceſtors: and furthermore, at the requeſt of the ſaid biſhop, by this charter, he granted them throughout all their lands, ſac and ſoc, toll, theam, infengenthef, &c. with the liberty of not ſerving at hundred courts, ſheriffs turns, or any other courts out of their manors, and that they and the tenants reſiding in their manors ſhould tranſact every thing among themſelves, at the views of frank-pledge in their mnnors; and that all manner of felons goods, and forfeitures of the tenants and burgeſſes, reſiding on the biſhop's demeſnes, ſhould be free from all toll, pontage, package, laſtage, ſtallage, &c. throughout all England, for all goods which they ſhall buy, ſell, and carry, by water or land, except within the liberties of the city of London, with other large liberties expreſſed in the ſaid charter; all which were exemplified * under ſeal the 7th of Feb. 36 Eliz. 1593, at the requeſt of Thomas and James Plowman, alias Cann, and Thomas Barnes, inhabitants of Eccles, on the behalf and for the uſe of the tenants, townſmen, and inhabitants of the ſaid town, who have enjoyed the ſame liberties from the firſt grant to the preſent time. The ducking-ſtool and gallows ſtood on Gallow-hill, almoſt a mile eaſt of the town.

This manor continued in the biſhopric till biſhop Nix, unfortunately falling under a premunire, for

* The exemplification is in the hands of Mr. Lanham, of Yaxley, in Suffolk, who owns an eſtate here. Cart. 35. H. 3. No. 2. The leet always belonged to the manor, and it has free-warren, and ſo was never appendant to the hundred, for which reaſon the lord of the hundred hath nothing to do in this manor.

which he was by law to ſuffer perpetual impriſonment, and loſs of all his goods, was forced to purchaſe his peace of Henry VIII. by exchanging the large eſtates (viz. thirty good manors and more) belonging to his biſhopric for the abbey and revenues of St. Bennet of Holme; and that this agreement might remain firm for ever, the king procured that it ſhould be ſettled by act of parliament, that the biſhop of Norwich ſhould be always abbot of St. Bennet of Holme; and, on the contrary, the abbot of Holme biſhop of Norwich*; by which exchange this manor came to the crown, and there continued till Nov. 12, 1559, when queen Elizabeth granted the manor, advowſon, ſheep-walks, and all other privileges thereto belonging, to ſir Nicholas Bacon, knt. lord keeper of the great ſeal, and to his heirs, to be held by him and them in as full and ample a manner as any of the ancient biſhops held it when it belonged to that ſee: he conveyed it to ſir Nathaniel Bacon, knight of the bath, of Stiffkey, in the hundred of North Greenhoe, his youngeſt ſon, who kept a court here from about 1572 to 1595; he ſettled a moiety of it on Elizabeth, his ſecond daughter and co-heireſs, upon her marrying ſir Thomas Knevet, jun. knt. In 1631 this moiety was ſettled by dame Elizabeth Knevet, aforeſaid, on Muriell, wife of ſir Charles le Groſſe, knt. of Croſtweyt, and her heirs, ſir Roger Townſhend, ſir Robert Gaudy, and others, being then concerned as co-heirs of the eſtate of ſir Nathaniel Bacon, who had ſettled the other moiety on ſir Owen Smith in remainder, after the death of Dorothy,

* The biſhop of Norwich is the only abbot in England, and now ſits in parliament by virtue of the barony of Holme-abbey, the barony formerly belonging to the biſhopric being in the crown. N. B. Holme was a mitred abbey, and as ſuch, its abbots always ſat in parliament.

Dorothy, his ſecond wife, eldeſt daughter of ſir Arthur Hopton, knight of the bath, at the coronation of king James, which Dorothy was relict of William Smith, of Burgh-Caſtle, in Suffolk, and thus it continued in moieties for ſome time.

In 1642 ſir Charles le Groſſe, knt. and Fitz-Nunn Lambe, eſq. held their firſt court, the Hopton's having ſold their moiety to the Lambs, who after became poſſeſſed of the whole, in whoſe family it continued till about 1712, and then Mr. Edmund Lamb ſold it to Mr. William Green, of Stafford, whoſe ſon, the late William Green, eſq. became lord, and Mrs. Mary Green, of Eccles, his widow, was, after his deceaſe, lady: William Green, eſq. is now lord and patron.

The cuſtoms of this manor are, that the fine is at the lord's will, the tenants cannot waſte their copyhold without licence, the eldeſt ſon is heir, there is no leet fee, or common fine, and it gives no dower.

The commons belonging to this town are theſe: the Wroo, Rouſe-Hill, the Great Fen, the Little Fen, South Moor, North Moor, Weſt Ling, or the further heath, containing in all about 180 acres, on all which the lord hath no right of commonage, but it ſolely belongs to the tenants, who can common horſes, cows, and all other cattle, and cut and carry away furze at all times from Rouſe-Hill, and the further heath, and flags and turf from the fens.

There is a hamlet called Overey, which had a church formerly, for we meet with "the rector of Overey," but it never had any inſtitution, which makes us think it always belonged to Eccles, and was ſerved by that rector, becauſe in the beginning of

the reign of Henry VIII. Overey is ſaid to belong to Eccles, as it now doth.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary; it has a round tower, and three bells, the nave is leaded, the chancel and north porch tiled, and the ſouth aile (which hath a roof diſtinct from the nave) is thatched. It is a rectory in Norfolk archdeaconry, and Rockland deanry, valued in the king's books at 14l. per ann. and pays 1l. 8s. per ann. tenths. It is altogether exempt from archidiaconal juriſdiction, and ſo pays no procurations, and it being the biſhop's own ſeat, he always excuſed the rector from payment of ſynodals, ſo that there are none paid, except at the general viſitations: it is a ſmall village, having much decreaſed for ſome time by the lord's purchaſing many of the cottages and ſmall tenements.

In 1603 it had 108 communicants, paid 30s. a year to the tenths, and is now aſſeſſed at 338l. 10s. to the land tax.

There is a rectory-houſe, which was built by biſhop Nix, whoſe arms, with the arms of the ſee, were in the windows, but were loſt when the houſe was burned down ſome years ſince, in Mr. Birch's time, who re-built it; there is a convenient quantity of glebe belonging to it.

In biſhop Nix's time, anno 1510, one Thomas, a prieſt of Norwich, was burned at Eccles: when he was in priſon he was by perſuaſion lead away from his former opinions, wherefore, when he went to be burned, he would for penance be carried on ſharp hurdles, made of thorns.

This

This biſhop was certainly a greater bigot to Popery than could well conſiſt with his learning and ſtation, for when he was very old he obſtinately oppoſed the Reformation, then begun, and held ſecret correſpondence with the court of Rome, though he had with a ſolemn oath openly renounced the pope's ſupremacy; but at laſt being accuſed and convicted, he was impriſoned a long time in the Marſhalſea, ſo that his own ſufferings may in ſome meaſure clear him of his vices, and argue his ſincerity in his religion, though erroneous.

The ſouth aile of the church ſeems a later building than the nave, and was formerly appropriated to the biſhop's palace, but now belongs to the pariſh; the altar in it, in all probability, was dedicated to St. Nicholas the biſhop, his effigy being formerly painted on the wall.

In the north chancel window were pictures of St. German, St. Anthony, and St. Bennet, and under them,—*Sanctus Germanus.*—*Beati Antoni, ora pro nobis.*—*Sancta Benedicte, ora pro nobis.*—And the arms of Edward the Confeſſor, and Clifton and Tateſhale, in the firſt half of the eſcutcheon, impaling Howard, but moſt of them are now loſt.

On the north ſide of the chancel is a mural monument of white marble, inſcribed to the Rev. Samuel Birch, A. M. rector here, *obijt.* Dec. 12, 1732, aged 32.

William Green, eſq. eldeſt ſon and heir of William Green, eſq. deceaſed, (who is buried in the chancel) hath a ſeat here, and became lord and patron after the deceaſe of Mrs. Mary Green, his mother, who held it in jointure.—*Blomfield.*

In 1733 the Rev. John Hull was preſented to this rectory by William Green, eſq.

William Woodley, eſq. who ſerved the office of high ſheriff of Norfolk, in 1768, reſides at his ſeat at Eccles.

ELLINGHAM, GREAT, wrote in Doomſday-book Helincham, and Elincham. This town was in three parts at the conqueſt, and hath continued ſo to this time, there being now three manors; the capital manor was always called as it now is.

ELLINGHAM, or ELLINGHAM-HALL. It belonged to Turketel, the Dane, in the Confeſſor's days, and to Waribold, or Warbold, in the Conqueror's, who held it of Hermer de Ferrers, to whom the Conqueror had given it; it was then worth 5l. and the whole town was two miles long, and one broad, and paid 19d. gelt. It afterwards came to the earl Warren, of whom the Wormegays held it, till William de Wormegay infeoffed William de Ellingham, who held it at two fees of ſir Hugh Bardolph, and had a charter for free-warren In 1369 Alexander de Ellingham conveyed the whole manor, and advowſon, to ſir Robert Mortimer, knt. In 1402 the advowſon was ſeparated from the manor, and the latter went to ſir John Fitz-Ralph, of Scoulton, knt. in right of Margery his wife, one of the daughters and co-heireſſes of ſir Thomas Mortimer, of Attleburgh. For want of male heirs it went to Maud Fitz-Ralph, who married ſir Robert Conyers, knt. who died ſeiſed, and John Conyers, their ſon, inherited, but having no iſſue, in 1472 he releaſed it to Henry Spelman, eſq. in truſt for Thomas his ſon, who had married Anne, one of the two daughters and co-heireſſes of Thomas Conyers, eſq. his brother; he died in 1483, and in 1499 Thomas

Thomas Spelman, gentleman, of Mekyll Ellingham, held it of Shropham hundred, who died ſeiſed, and by his will, dated this year, ordered to be buried in the church, to which he gave 20l. for a ſuit of veſtments, "and to the gild of our Lady, in honowr, and "worſchypp of her, *v. joyes*, 5s." Henry his brother inherited; he died without iſſue in 1525, and was buried here; upon which this manor went to Anthony Gurney, eſq. of North Barſham, in right of Margaret his wife, one of the daughters and coheireſſes of ſir Robert Lovell, by Ela Conyers, his wife, who was ſiſter to Ann Conyers, mother to Henry Spelman; but Berryhall went to the heirs of William De-Grey, of Merton, in right of Chriſtian his wife, the daughter and co-heireſs of Thomas Manning. After 1641 it went to Margaret Gurney, his aunt, who married Mr. Henry Davy, of Great Ellingham, whoſe ſole daughter and heireſs, Mary, married ſir Roger Potts, bart. of Great Ellingham and Mannington, who ſold it to Mr. Francis Colman, of Norwich, the preſent lord, who now (ſays Blomfield) dwells in the manor-houſe, called Ellingham-hall.

The cuſtoms of this manor are, that the eldeſt ſon is heir, it is ſet fine at 3s. an acre, and there are very conſiderable barley rents paid in kind, if the lord does not chooſe to compound for them. The leet belongs to the hundred, and the fee 3s. 6d. 3q.

Burgh-Hall, or Berry-Hall, Manor, at the conqueſt belonged to Robert de Beaufo, the ſoke of it was then appendant to the hundred, as it now is, there being no leet; it afterwards belonged to the lords of Buckenham-caſtle, and was part of thoſe eleven fees which Hugh de Vere held of Robert de Tateſhale; and in 1304 Thomas de Cailly had it. In 1305 it belonged to Baldwin de Manerijs, or Man-

ners, who held it of Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk. It afterwards paſſed through many hands, till it belonged to the Mortimers, and went with Elizabeth Mortimer to ſir Ralph Bigot, of Stockton, her huſband, who held it for life, and after his death ſhe enjoyed it to her own, in 1463, and then by will gave it to John Manning, her laſt huſband, and his heirs, who in 1428 was juſtice of peace, and of gaol delivery, in the biſhop of Ely's liberty of Mitford hundred. At his death it went with Chriſtian, one of his daughters and co-heireſſes, to William De-Grey, of Merton, eſq. who died in 1474, from which time it hath gone in a lineal deſcent to Thomas De-Grey, of Merton, eſq. the preſent lord.

The cuſtom of the manor is, that the fines are at the lord's will, and the eldeſt ſon is heir.

This church was valued in the king's books at 6l. 5s. 10d. and being ſworn of the clear yearly value of 31l. 16s. 10d. it hath been augmented, (as we are informed) by the Rev. Mr. John Cater, late vicar and patron, who ſettled part of the great tithes upon the vicar. It ſtands in Mr. Ecton's laſt edition of the value, &c. as a rectory, the reaſon of which is, that on its appropriation to the college the vicarage was never taxed, but the college paid the whole firſt-fruits, not at the inſtitution of each vicar, but of each maſter, ſo that as to firſt fruits and tenths, it always was a rectory, but being under value, it is now diſcharged of both.

In 1402 the advowſon of this rectory was appendant to the manor, till the diviſion of the Mortimer eſtate, and then the manor went to Margery, wife of ſir John Fitz-Ralph, knt. and the advowſon to Cecily, widow

widow of ſir John de Herling, knt. who gave it to the maſter and fellows of Attleburgh college, or chantry, and they at their foundation got it appropriated to their houſe, by bull from pope John XXIII. dated at Rome, in June, 1411, when a vicarage was created by the biſhop.

In January 12, 1475, the vicar ſued the maſter and fellows becauſe the vicarage was worth no more than nine marks a year, and made them augment it for ever with four marks per ann. payable at Eaſter, and Michaelmas, out of their great tythes.

The RECTORY MANOR always belonged to the rectors; for in the Conqueror's ſurvey it appears that there were then divers lands and ſervices belonging to the church, but at the appropriation in 1402 it was taken from it, and ſettled as part of the rectory, on the college, and went with the rectory and advowſon of the vicarage, at the diſſolution, to the earl of Suſſex, in whoſe family it continued till after 1639. In 1641 James Lloyd, gent. and Abraham Turner, preſented. It afterwards belonged to Thomas Cockayne, of Sunning, in Berks, and was lately owned, with the impropriation and advowſon, by the Rev. Mr. John Cater.

The cuſtoms are the ſame as Berry-hall manor.

This town paid 4l. to the tenths, and is aſſeſſed at 733l. In 1603 it had 360 communicants, and now there are about 400 inhabitants. It is a vicarage endowed and augmented. The prior of Wymondham's temporalities in this town were taxed at 6s. 8d. and the prior of Buckenham's at 11s. 9d. The honor of Clare extended hither, for in 1564 Thomas Greene, clothier, held the paſture lands called Iſehalls of the queen,

queen, as of her honor of Clare, by knight's ſervice.

At the upper end of the church lies a ſtone, which had a braſs plate inſcribed—*To Henry Spelman, eſq. who died March* 1, 1525. On the upper part of the ſtone were the arms of Spelman impaling Mortimer, and Spelman quartering Manning.

In 1509 Adam Cowper, of Moche Ellingham, was buried here, in whoſe will is this clauſe; "I geff "unto the church of Elyngham aforeſeyd iii acres, "and a rode of free lond, lying in a felde, called "Weſt-felde, at Heſyllmere-buſh."

Anthony Gurnay, of Great Ellingham, eſq. was buried in this church in 1557.

The church is dedicated to St. James the Apoſtle, the ſouth chapel to St. Peter. The north aile chapel is called Mortimer's chapel, and was made at the expence of that family, as appears by their arms ſcattered about it.

The nave, two ailes, and the chapels at their eaſt ends, with the chancel, are leaded, the porch is tiled, the tower is ſquare, hath a ſpire on it, and five bells in it.

There are two black marbles in the chancel, one inſcribed—*To Elizabeth, the wife of Charles Potts, citizen, and merchant-taylor of London, who died September* 2, *anno Domini* 1706, *at Kenſington, in Middleſex, aged* 21 *years.*

The other—*To Philip Potts, ſon of ſir Roger Potts. obijt* 1698, *ætatis* 27.

There

There is a ſtone in the chancel diſrobed, of the effigy of a woman, and the arms of Willoughby and Conyers, and Conyers quartering Fitz-Ralph, with this inſcription:—*Orate pro anima Ann nuper uxoris Richardi Wyllugby, armigeri, unius filiarum et heredum Thomæ Conyers, armigeri, que obiit xxii° die Octobris, anno Domini* 1499.

There are divers arms in the windows, and upon the ſeats and ſcreens in the church and chancel: Fitz-Ralph, Manning, quarterly; Willoughby, Mortimer of Attleburgh, Spelman, Conyers, Kerdeſton, Montchenſy, Swathyng, Hetherſet, Felbrigg, Plantagenet, Butler, Baſſingbourne, and Bundevile. Edward the Confeſſor, and the following arms and emblem of St. James, viz. the pilgrim's ſtaff and ring, his bag, pouch, and eſcalop ſhells, which were the badges of the pilgrims that frequently travelled to Compoſtella, where St. James lies buried.

On September 29, 1747, Ellingham *Magna* was conſolidated with Ellingham *Parva*; and in 1777 the Rev. Thomas Bond had this vicarage on his own preſentation.

HARGHAM, or HARPHAM, is wrote in Doomſday book Herkeham. This town never had but one manor, of which Ulf, a freeman, was lord in the time of the Confeſſor, when it was valued at 20s. At the conqueſt it was given to R. de Bellofago (or Beaufo) who gave it to Caurincus, who held it of him at the ſurvey, when it was worth 30s. was a mile long, another broad, and paid 6d. ob. 1 q. Dane-geld. The deſcendents of this Caurincus aſſumed to themſelves the ſirname of Herkeham, Harcham, Hargham, Herford, or Harpham; for their name, as well as that of the town, was oftentimes ſpelled different, according

to

to the age it was wrote in. This family ſoon became very numerous, for in the time of Henry I. there were three ſeveral branches of it in good repute; but we ſhall only take notice of the eldeſt family, which all along held the manor, and the oldeſt that we meet with is William de Herkeham*, and his deſcendent, William de Harcham, was lord in 1249 of the manors and advowſons of Swanton, and Hargham.

In 1345, in the 20th of Edward III. Thomas de Herford ſettled all his manors of Swanton, Badburgham, (now Babram) in Cambridgeſhire, and Hargham, with the advowſon of Hargham, after his mother's death, on Maud de Lancaſter, counteſs of Ulſter, and her truſtees; and John de Herford, who was brother and heir to Henry, releaſed his right, ſo that the fee became veſted in Maud de Lancaſter, relict of William de Burgh, earl of Ulſter, who obtained leave of Edward III. at the interceſſion of Henry earl of Lancaſter, her brother, to found a chantry of a maſter, and four chaplains, in the chapel of the Annunciation of the Bleſſed Virgin, in the priory church belonging to the nuns at Campeſſe, in Suffolk, and in order to endow it, the king granted licence to the prioreſs and nuns of Campeſſe to receive and hold in mortmain the advowſons of the churches of Burgh, in Suffolk, and Hargham, in Norfolk, of the gift of the ſaid counteſs, and to aſſign them to the cuſtos of the ſaid chantry for ever, with licence to appropriate them to the cuſtos and chaplains for ever, for their maintenance; but the biſhop would never conſent to the appropriation; and whereas it was certified by Lionel duke of Clarence, and earl of Ulſter, that the chaplains went in ſecular habits, neglected their office, and waſted the revenues of the chantry, he had leave

* In 1184 ſir Robert de Harpham was elected abbot of St. Mary's, at York, and died May 13, 1189.

leave to appropriate all the revenues of the chantry to ſuſtain an abbeſs, and other religious women, of the order of St. Clare, in Rokehall, in Bruſyerd in Suffolk, and to erect an abbey, and endow it with whatever belonged to the chantry; upon which the abbey was erected, and this advowſon transferred to the abbeſs, who preſented to the diſſolution, and was then granted, in 1538, by the king, together with the advowſon, and all other lands belonging to the abbey, lying in Hargham, to Nicholas Hare, and his heirs, to be held in capite at half a knight's fee; and in 1539 Nicholas Hare, aforeſaid, eſq. had licence to ſell the whole to John Green, and his heirs, who had a great eſtate in Wilby, Snitterton, Banham, Attleburgh, Hargham, Old Buckenham, and Kenninghall; but in 1580 it deſcended equally among the daughters and co-heireſſes of his ſon Thomas. In 1583 Paul Gooche, of Banham, John Launce, of Haleſworth, William Brook, of Euſton, in Suffolk, Thomas Colby of Banham, gent. and William Hunſton, of Walſoken, in right of their wives, were poſſeſſed each of a fifth part, and Paul Gooche hired the whole. In 1586 they all joined and conveyed the whole abſolutely to Paul Gooche, and his heirs, who in 1587 ſold the whole to Henry Gurnay, eſq. who ſold it to Richard Howell, jun. eſq. of Hillington, and he to ſir Ralph Hare, knt. who ſettled it, in 1620, on ſir Thomas Coventry, knt. upon the marriage of his ſon with ſir Thomas's daughter, from which time it hath paſſed in the Hares.

The cuſtoms were theſe, the eldeſt ſon was heir; the fines were at the lord's will, and it gave no dower; the leet belonged to the hundred, but now there is neither leet nor tenants, the whole being exchanged and manumiſed, or in the lord's own hands.

Sir

Sir John Hare of Stow Bardolph, in Norfolk, knt. ſon of ſir Ralph Hare, knight of the bath, held his firſt court October 29, 1623; he married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas earl of Coventry, and ſhe held her firſt court in 1638. Their ſon, Nicholas Hare, of Hargham, eſq. was buried here Nov. 17, 1689, and left Ralph Hare, of Hargham, eſq. and of the Middle Temple, barriſter at law, buried here Nov. 18, 1709: he had ſix ſons and ſix daughters, and was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſon and heir, Thomas Hare, of Hargham, eſq. buried here in 1736, who by Mary, daughter and heireſs of Joſeph Sharpe, of Thetford, eſq. had Hugh Hare, eſq. born in 1729, and Ann, born in 1727. This Hugh Hare, eſq. now reſides at his pleaſant ſeat of Hargham, which he has ornamented in a neat ſtile of improvement. The turnpike road between Norwich and London runs cloſe by the park, which renders it a moſt deſirable ſituation, either for pleaſure or convenience.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 4l. 4s. 2d. and being ſworn of the clear yearly value of 34l. 1s. 8d. it is diſcharged of firſt-fruits and tenths, though it pays yearly 1s. 3d. ſynodals, and 3s. procurations; it hath a rectory-houſe, and thirty acres two roods and an half of glebe*.

The

* September 29, 1685, the lord and the rector exchanged lands, the lord had ſixteen acres and one rood, and the rector received for it nineteen acres and three roods. The rector hath alſo two roods, called Bell-Acre, beſides the aforeſaid glebe, for which he is obliged to find the *bell-ropes*. Mortuaries are due in this pariſh, viz. every one that dies worth 20l. pays the rector 3s. 4d. if worth 30l. 6s. 8d. if 40l. 10s. but it riſes no higher, and there is nothing paid under 20l. value.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and has a nave, chancel, and ſouth porch, tiled, a ſquare tower and three bells.

Hargham is a ſmall village, the whole (except one farm) being purchaſed by the lords, hath reduced it to ſix houſes, and about fifty inhabitants, though it had fifty-five communicants in 1603; it paid 30s. a year to the tenths, and is now aſſeſſed at 23ol. to the land tax.

At the entrance of the ſouth door are two ſmall braſs plates, in memory of Agnes and Thomas Gall, who were of a conſiderable family in this town.

A black marble before the deſk,—*To Henry Pitts, A. B. rector of this, and vicar of Roudham, who died Auguſt* 28, 1728.

There were divers arms on the old roof of the chancel, all which were defaced when the new roof was erected, as we learn from a manuſcript among Mr. le Neve's collections, viz.—Vere, Howard, Verdon, Beauchamp, St. George, Branch, &c.

Latin inſcriptions and arms are on black marbles in the chancel;—Hare impales Geary:—This is for Nicholas Hare, eſq. who married Katherine, daughter of William Geary, eſq. of Buſhmead-Abbey, in Bedfordſhire, *obijt* Nov. 15, 1689.—Hare impaling Willis;—for Ralph Hare, eſq. who married Ann, daughter of ſir John Willis, bart. of Ditton, in Cambridgeſhire, *obijt* Nov. 16, 1709, *ætatis* 52. She died Sept. 25, 1728, aged 57.

Here are alſo monuments to Alice Hare, who died April 26, 1713, aged 76; and to Catherine, fourth daughter

daughter of Ralph Hare, eſq. who died Aug. 23, 1722, aged 20 years.

In the time of Edward I. the rector had a houſe and forty acres of land, and the rectory was not taxed, and ſo paid no firſt-fruits.—*Doomſ. Norwic.*

In 1682 the plate belonging to this church was only a ſilver cup and cover.

In 1769 the Rev. William Lobb was preſented to the rectory of Hargham, conſolidated with Wilby, by Hugh Hare, eſq.

HOCKHAM, or HOCHAM. *Hocham*, or The Town in the Dirt, as the name ſignifies, was a rectory appendant to the manor till the year 1227, and then Warine de Monte Caniſo, or Montchenſy, releaſed the advowſon to the prior of the monks at Thetford, to which houſe it was ſoon after appropriated, and a vicarage inſtituted, to which the priors preſented till the diſſolution.

In 1636 John Underwood, A. M. held it united to Study, with a certificate that it was *not* above twenty miles diſtant, and this is one of the firſt unions that we meet with that had any certificate of diſtance, the biſhops of Norwich having always had power of uniting any two benefices, ſo that both were within their own dioceſe.

The impropriation and advowſon of the vicarage at the diſſolution went with the abbey of Thetford, and all its revenues, to Thomas duke of Norfolk, who ſold it to the Coppingers, and they, about 1600, to the Jermyns, and ſo it was joined to the manor.

The

The vicarage is valued at 8l. 17s. 11d. in the king's books, and being ſworn of the clear yearly value of 40l. 10s. only, it is diſcharged of firſt-fruits and tenths, and is capable of augmentation.

The church is dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and hath no tower; the ruins of one that hath been dilapidated many years lie at the weſt end of it.

On a mural monument, againſt the north chancel wall,—*Memoriæ Roberti Baldock, filij Roberti Baldock, equitis aurati, et Mariæ, uxoris ejus, natu minoris, prælio navali contra Belgas, 28° die Maij, anno Dom.* 1673, *ætatis ſuæ* 18, *occiſi. poſuit pater.*

On a flat marble in the chancel,—*Henricus Bacon, armiger, Bacquevilli Bacon, ar: (Dni. Nicholai Bacon de Redgrave, militis & baronetti filij natu tertij) filius natu tertius, Bacquevilli Bacon, ar: frater et hæres, obijt 13° die Martij, anno ſalutis,* 1647.

Robert Kedington, of Great Hockham, eſq. who married Philippa, the ſecond daughter of Bacqueville Bacon, eſq. died March 28, 1667, and is buried here, and others of his family.

Sir Robert Baldock, one of the judges of the Common Pleas during the reign of James II. was buried here; he died Oct. 4, 1691, and had two wives; the firſt of which was Mary, daughter of Bacqueville Bacon, of Hockam, eſq.

Great Hockham was always one manor, which belonged to Edric in the Confeſſor's days, and to Roger Bigot at the ſurvey, when it was worth 4l. and was three miles long and one broad, and paid 15d. gelt; it then extended into Wayland hundred, but the ſu-

perior lordſhip of it belonged to Buckenham-Caſtle, as the reſt of the town did, the leet belonging to the hundred of Shropham, to which the town always paid a common fine, or leet fee. of 7s. a year, till the hundred was mortgaged, and after ſold to the Kedingtons, and then the leet and leet-fee, with all the liberties belonging to the leet, and the whole liberties which belonged to the hundred, were joined to the manor before they ſold the hundred, and excepted upon the ſale of it, ſo that the lord of the hundred hath no paramountſhip in this town. From the Bigots it went to the Albinis, who enſeoffed the Montchenſys: and in 1235 Warine de Montchenſy held it at one fee of Buckenham-Caſtle, it being formerly one of earl Bigot's fees.

Henry III. granted Dioniſe Montchenſy a charter for a fair, and market, to be kept here every Friday; and in 1285 ſhe had liberty of free-warren in all her demeſnes here; but all the ſuperior juriſdictions were at the ſame time allowed to Robert de Tateſhale, lord of Buckenham-Caſtle, as ſuperior lord of the leet, viz. view of frank-pledge, aſſize of bread and ale, and a pillory, as well for his own tenants as others; and in this year it was preſented by the jury, ſworn before the juſtices itinerant at Norwich, that an *unknown* man was taken at Hockham, in the manor of Dioniſe de Montchenſy, of Hockham, with a line of 13d. value, and was carried into the open court there, and without any one's proſecuting him was taken and hanged; upon which the ſheriff was ordered to ſummon the ſaid Dioniſe, and the ſuiters of her court there, to give an account of it. At her death it went to the earl of Pembroke, and ſo deſcended to the Haſtings, earls of Pembroke. In 1391 Reginald Grey, knt. was lord; ſir Edward Haſtings, of Elſing, knt. was next heir, but for all that

that it deſcended to the Greys, of Ruthyn, heirs general of the family; in 1401 William Beauchamp had it, and it deſcended to Elizabeth, wife of Edward Neville, lord Abergavenny, daughter and heireſs of Richard Beauchamp, earl of Worceſter, ſon and heir of William, in 1475. In 1535 ſir George and ſir Edward Neville, knts. ſettled it on William Drury. In 1539 ſir John and ſir Chriſtopher Heydon, knts. ſold it to ſir Thomas Jermyn, Knt. About 1600 Bacqueville* Bacon, eſq. of Hockham, third ſon of ſir Nicholas Bacon, of Redgrave, bart. was lord. Henry, his ſecond ſon, inherited it on the deceaſe of his brother; he died the 13th of March, 1641, and was buried here, leaving his three ſiſters his co-heireſſes; Mary, the eldeſt, married judge Baldock; Philippa, the ſecond, married Robert Kedington, who lived and died here; Ann, the third, married Nicholas Rookwood, of Euſton, eſq. and ſold their third part to Robert Kedington, who afterwards purchaſed Baldock's part, and ſo became ſole lord, and at his death left it to Philippa, his wife, who kept her firſt court October 15, 1667; at her death Henry Kedington, of Hockham, eſq. became lord, and kept his firſt court October 9, 1685; and in 1702 Philip Ryley, eſq. ſerjeant at arms to the lord treaſurer, ſurveyor of the queen's woods and foreſts on the ſouth ſide of Trent, and one of the commiſſioners of the exciſe, who was afterwards knighted, purchaſed the manor, impropriation, and advowſon, of Henry Kedington, gent. and built a neat brick houſe here, which was alſo the ſeat of Philip Reginald Ryley, eſq. his grandſon and heir.

* It is ſometimes wrote Bacqueville, Baqueville, and Banqueville, which was the name of a family, ſo called from Bankerville, in Normandy.

The ancient cuſtoms and privileges within the manor of Great Hockham, as appears by the examined evidences of the ſaid manor, are,

" The lord hath the goods of felons *de ſe* within the manor; no tenant can waſte his copyhold; women are dowable for a moiety of the copyhold of which their huſbands are ſeiſed during the coverture.

" A man, by the cuſtom of this manor, is tenant by the courteſy of England, of lands and tenements of this manor, of which his wives are ſeiſed, and have iſſue between them.

" No tenants of the lords, inhabiting in Great Hockham, ought to be cited to the conſiſtory, or ſpiritual courts, becauſe it is againſt the cuſtom of that village, or town, and to the prejudice of the lord, as appears by the prior of the monks at Thetford, in the 1ſt of Henry IV.

" Hockham-Mere, alias Cranberry-Fen, is a ſeparate water of the lords of this manor, it contains fourteen ſcore acres, and is in circuit 708 perches, every perch containing eighteen feet, and the lord hath a fiſh-houſe there.

" The lord of the manor is lord of the common of paſture in Great Hockham, and of all waſte in the bounds of the village.

" The tenants give for a fine for their copyhold lands and tenements upon every alienation, whether by death or ſurrender, according to the ancient cuſtom of this manor, 12d. out of every mark of the value and price of their lands and tenements by them taken up, and ſuch fine is called mark-ſhilling.

" One

" One copyhold tenant can take a ſurrender, and another witneſs it.

" The lands deſcend to the eldeſt ſon, and the manor extends into Breccles, Illington, Tottington, and Thomſon.

In 1384 ſir Stephen de Hales, knt. aliened divers lands here, and in other towns, to the prior of Walſingham.

In 1654 the townſhip of Hockham held divers lands of this manor.

This town, ſays Blomfield, hath no market at this time; it contains about 200 ſouls, and paid 4l. 7s. to the tenths, and is now aſſeſſed with Little Hockham at 628l. 6s. 8d. to the king's tax.

Little Hockham was a ſmall village between Great Hockham and Illington; in the Confeſſor's time it belonged to Ailwin, and in the Conqueror's it was held of Roger Bigot by Turold. Roger gave the church and tithes to the priory of Thetford at their foundation, who received them ſeparately till the church of Great Hockham was appropriated to them, and then they joined them to Great Hockham, which is the reaſon we meet with no inſtitutions, though we ſuppoſe the church was not demoliſhed till after the time of Richard II. for then we meet with the church of St. Mary at Hockham mentioned in evidences, which we believe muſt be this, Great Hockham being dedicated to the Holy Trinity.

The manor afterwards was held of the honor of Richmond, at a quarter of a fee, by Alen de Aneſtie; and in 1252 by Ralph de Neketon, who had free-

warren allowed him in it. It ſoon after belonged to William de Hockham, who made it compleat by joining all the lands and tenements that belonged to the manor of Wretham to it, as well thoſe that lay in Great Hockham as in this town: he and all his tenants under him were to pay reliefs, do ſuit to the Halmote-Court at Wretham, pay ſcot and lot, and could not marry their daughters *without* licence.

In 1335 John duke of Bedford aliened to the prior of Thetford the manor of Little Hockham, but we conceive this to be only the ſuperiority of the fee, the manor being then held of him, and afterwards of the prior, after that of the biſhop of Norwich; and after the revenues of the biſhopric were taken into the king's hands, it was held of the crown.

In 1538 Ambroſe Jermyn was lord; it afterwards belonged to the Bedingfields.

In 1616 there were five copyhold tenants, which paid 3l. 12s. rent, two tenements, worth 8l. per ann. a ſheep-walk, &c. It now pays all dues to Great Hockham, there being only two farms in the village, of which the manor-houſe is one, which, with the manor, was owned by William Jermy, of Norwich, eſq. in right of his wife, who was ſiſter and ſole heireſs of the right honourable lord Richardſon, baron of Cramond, in Scotland.

The fines are at the lord's will, and the eldeſt ſon is heir. The leet belongs to the hundred, but there being ſo few inhabitants it is ſeldom kept.

Mr. Benoni Mallett, an opulent farmer at Dunton, near Fakenham, is now lord and patron of Hockham,

Hockham, by purchaſe; and in 1772 he preſented the Rev. Anthony Carr to the vicarage.

ILLINGTON, ILLINKETUNE, or ILSINGTUNE, is a ſmall village joining to Roudham and Larlingford; the church is dedicated to St. Andrew, and is a rectory; it hath a rectory-houſe and glebe, and was valued at 6l. 19s. 2d. in the king's books, it was ſworn of the clear yearly value of 37l. 2s. by which means it is diſcharged of firſt-fruits and tenths, though it pays 1s. ſynodals, beſides the archdeacon's procurations.

In 1603 there were thirty-two communicants in this village, and now (Blomfield) there are about ſixty inhabitants; it paid 53s. to the tenths, and is now aſſeſſed at 257l. to the land tax. The chief, if not the whole of this town, belongs to the Churchmans, whoſe ſeat ſtands about two furlongs N. W. of the church.

The church and chancel are very ſmall, having a ſquare tower at the weſt end.

There is an altar-tomb in the chancel for ſir John Churchman, knt. ſome time patron of this church, who ſuddenly departed this life Feb. 24, 1688, aged 56.—*Moriendo perpetuam vitam lucramur.*

The prior of Buckenham had lands here of the gift of the Buckenhams, taxed at 2s. 9d.

The abbot of Sibeton, in Suffolk, held the 25th part of a knight's fee, which was either given or ſold to that houſe, by Henry de Eſthall, before 1291, for then the abbot was returned to hold it of the ſaid Henry, who held it of Adam de Cailly, he of the

earl Warren, and he of the king, to whom the abbot paid his part, to make his eldeſt ſon a knight. It was taxed at 11s. 3d. ob.

Here was a parcel of land given to the abbey of Bury, for which the ſacriſt of that monaſtery was taxed at 2s.

EAST-HALL MANOR. At the time of the conqueſt the whole town belonged to William earl Warren, and was of 20s. value in the Confeſſor's time, and 30s. in the Conqueror's; the whole was ſomething better than a mile long, and a mile broad, paid 7d. gelt, and was held of the caſtle of Lewes, though at that time the ſuperior juriſdiction belonged to the hundred of Shropham, the lord of which is now lord paramount of this town, keeps the leet, and receives 6d. for quit-rent of the manor, and 18d. for leet-fee. In the earl's time Berner, his ſervant, held it at one fee, for life; and afterwards it went to Hubert de Burgh, of whom Gilbert de Morley held it, and from him it came to the crown; king Henry gave it to Reginald de Warren, of whom William de Illington had the whole fee, and left it to Henry, his ſon, who built and ſettled in the eaſt part of the town, during his father's life, and aſſumed the name of Eaſt-Hall; he divided the manor into many parts, reſerving to himſelf the half of the town, which he held at half a fee of Adam de Cailly, as of the caſtle of Buckenham, and this he called Eaſt-Hall Manor.

BUCKENHAM'S, WEST-HALL, or ILLINGTON-HALL MANOR, the other half fee, he divided into many parts, all which were held of him, and became ſo many ſmall manors.

In

In the time of Henry III. William de Buckenham held a quarter of a fee, which was the original of Buckenham's, Weſt-Hall, or Illington-Hall Manor.

This family had another quarter of a fee in this and the neighbouring towns, which belonged to the earl Warren, and afterwards to Adam Cailly, who enfeoffed it in the Buckenhams, and this they joined to the other part, purchaſed of Henry de Eaſthall, together with the advowſon, ſo that Weſt-Hall, or Buckenham's, became now the capital manor; and in 1253 William de Buckenham had a charter for free-warren here, &c.

In 1343 John de Eaſthall held half a fee of Adam de Clifton, he of the earl Warren, and he of the king, which half fee was held of the ſaid John by the abbot of Sibeton, &c. and thus theſe ſmall manors continued in various hands, and were called by divers names, according to their poſſeſſors, till 1375, and then James de Wretham, and John Chaa, of Thetford, were lords of moſt of them, and each having a moiety, they preſented jointly. In 1392 they became all united in the two chief manors of Weſt-Hall and Eaſt-Hall, together with all the lands belonging to Welholm and Denver-Hall manors, in Larling, which lay in Illington.

In 1421 William Fleming, eſq. was lord and patron; but before 1428 it was divided again into moieties, the firſt of which (with the whole advowſon) was held by Richard Fleming, eſq. and the ſecond by John Groos, of Irſtead, who died ſeiſed in 1428; and from this time it went by the name of Eaſt-Hall manor, and extinguiſhed with the ſaid manor of Welholm.

The

The manor of Weſt-Hall, or Buckenham's, continued in the Flemings; and in 1450 ſir Thomas Fleming, knt. was lord and patron. In 1530 ſir Thomas Jermyn, knt. ſettled it on ſir John Heydon, knt. it after belonged to Fulk Gray, and after that to James Downes. In 1556 Jerome Spring had it, but in 1671 Chriſtopher Gaſcoigne was lord and patron, who held it till about 1600, when his grandſon, Cotton Gaſcoigne, gent. had it. In 1626 he married Ann, daughter of ſir William de Grey, of Merton, knt. who had it ſettled on her in jointure; ſhe after married ſir John Palgrave, who was lord and patron during her life, the reverſion being ſold by Cotton Gaſcoigne, eſq. to ſir John Churchman, knt. who preſented in 1664, and ſettled here. This family is deſcended from John Churchman, citizen of London in the time of Richard II. Sir John married Heſter, daughter of ſir John Gore, of Geldeſton, in Hertfordſhire, knt. and had John Churchman, of Illington, eſq. buried here in 1688, who by Suſan, daughter and heireſs of ——— Fiſke, of Stiffkey, in the hundred of North Greenhoe, had William Churchman, of Illington, the preſent (Blomfield) lord and patron.

Sir Thomas Churchman, knt. and alderman of Norwich, ſerved the office of mayor of that city in 1761.

In 1754 the Rev. Thomas Hawes was preſented to this rectory by the biſhop of Norwich, *by lapſe*.

KILVERSTONE, CULVERSTETUNA CULVERCESTUNA, KYNARDISTON, or KILVERDESTON, is a ſmall village adjoining to Thetford, now wholly owned by Charles Wright, eſq. the preſent lord. At this time there

there are no tenants belonging to the manors, the whole being purchaſed in.

MONK'S-HALL MANOR was held in the Confeſſor's time by a freeman, under Stigand, the whole being then of 40s. value, and the town two leagues long, two broad, and paid 7d. Dane-geld. It belonged to the Conqueror afterwards, and continued in the crown till Henry I. gave it to William de Albany, who married Maud, daughter of Roger Bigot, who, upon her account, gave this manor to the prior of the monks of the Bleſſed Virgin Mary, in Thetford, which houſe was of Roger's own foundation; and accordingly we find it returned to the Exchequer in the time of Edward I. held of the barony of Buckenham. The monks had alſo divers lands here, of other people's gift, which thus continued till the diſſolution, and then was given with the monaſtery to Thomas duke of Norfolk, and his heirs. The duke was beheaded in the 14th of queen Elizabeth, and in the 26th year of her reign the earl of Surrey, lord Thomas, lord William Howard, the feoffees, and truſtees, all joined and ſold it to Thomas Lovell, of eaſt Harling, together with Rothenhall, in Brettenham, who in 1585 ſold it to ſir Charles Cornwallis, who in 1587 ſold it to Thomas Wright, gent. of Weeting, and his heirs.

In the year 1285 the cuſtoms allowed to the manor belonging to the prior of Thetford, in Kilverſtone, were theſe, ſac, ſoc, toll, them, infangenethef, view of frankpledge, and aſſize of bread and ale, and till lately the leet belonging to it uſed to be kept. There is a fold-courſe for 400 ewes, 100 for the ſhepherd, and 250, which formerly belonged to the church, before the prior of Buttley aliened it. It was fine certain, viz. double the quit-rent, at every tenant's entry.

The

The eldeſt ſon is heir, and he can not waſte the copyhold. The lord of the hundred hath the ſuperior leet, which is held at the ſtone croſs every Wedneſday after Michaelmas day, to which all the reſidents do ſuit and ſervice, and pay their leet-fee of 10d. yearly; and to it belong all waifs, ſtrays, felons goods, forfeitures, &c. There were above 200 acres of common, and heath, on which the inhabitants commoned, but now every thing belongs to the lord. The maſter of Magdalen hoſpital, in Thetford, held above 26 acres near their houſe. which lay in the bounds of this town, and the canons of Thetford had lands here; it uſed to pay 5s. 8d. per ann. " *pro fine & feodo homagij.*

COXFORD MANOR, in the Confeſſor's days, belonged to Edric, and at the conqueſt to Robert Malet, lord of the honor of Eye; but one part of it was then held of the ſaid Robert, by Walter de Cadomo, and continued divided till they united in the prior. The firſt part went to Ralph de Querceto, Caineto, or Cheney, who came in with the Conqueror. He gave it with Sibil, his daughter, in marriage, to Robert Fitz-Walter, founder of St. Faith's, at Horſham; to which monaſtery they gave two parts of the tythes of their lands in this town, which were afterwards conveyed to Coxford priory after they had the manor. The other part or moiety was always held of the honor of Eye, at a quarter of a fee; it belonged to the ſame Robert Fitz-Walter, after that to Guy de Ferrarijs, or Ferrers, who infeoffed the Brooms, and in 1249 Roger de Broom ſettled it on John prior of Coxford, and his ſucceſſors, for ever. In 1428 the prior was taxed at 11l. 11s. 11d. for his temporalities here. In 1230 there was a diſpute between the priors of Thetford and Coxford, concerning the ſeparate fiſheries belonging to their manors here. The prior and convent of Coxford,

Coxford, by indenture, inrolled in chancery, dated the laſt day of April, 1528, ſold their manor of Coxford, in Kilverſtone, to Thomas duke of Norfolk, and his heirs, for 400 marks, which he paid to Henry VIII. in full of a debt due from the prior to the king, the prior being collector of the king's ſubſidy in the archdeaconry of Norwich, and not having repaid the money he had collected. After the duke's attainder it came to the king again, and continued in the crown till Edward VI. ſold it to ſir John Cornwallis, in the 4th year of his reign; and in 1587 it was ſold to Thomas Wright, of Weeting, gent. and his heirs.

This family are deſcended from Thomas Wright, *temp.* Henry VII. They were of Lexham, in Norfolk, and of Sutton-Hall, in Brent-Bradfield, in Suffolk.

Thomas Wright, eſq. ſon of the purchaſer, built the preſent hall at Kilverſtone, and from him deſcended the Wrights of Santon-Downham, and of Wangford*, in Suffolk. Thomas Wright, eſq. of Kilverſtone, and Weeting, his eldeſt ſon, was high ſheriff of Norfolk in 1652, and died in that office. His ſon Thomas died in 1667, and was ſucceeded by Charles Wright, of Kilverſtone, eſq. In 1696 Henry duke of Norfolk, lord-lieutenant of the county, made him captain of that troop of horſe, late his own. In 1701 he had another commiſſion from Charles viſcount Townſhend, of Raynham, baron of Lynn-Regis, lord lieutenant, &c. he was buried here November 16, 1729. The late Thomas Wright, eſq. was his eldeſt ſon and heir.

There

* Sir Robert Wright, of Wangford, knt. was firſt one of the juſtices of the common pleas, and after lord-chief juſtice of the king's bench, in the reign of James II.

There is a ſeparate right of fiſhing belonging to this manor, with liberty to hunt, hawk, fiſh, and fowl, in the town, and manors of Kilverſtone, notwithſtanding the ſuperior liberty of the hundred.

The fines were 2s. an acre, and the eldeſt ſon was heir.

The ſcite contained ſix acres, and joined to the river, ſouth, and Tunney-lane, weſt, which leads down from the ſtreet, by the weſt end of the church, to the river. There is alſo a ſwan mark now belonging to it.

The advowſon was given by Margaret de Caineto, Cheyney, or Creſſy, daughter and heireſs of William de Caineto, in free alms, to the prior of Butley, in Suffolk, who appropriated it to his houſe, reſerving a vicarage to be preſented to by the prior, with a penſion of 26s. 8d. payable out of the great tithes, together with the rectory-houſe, and an acre of land adjoining to it. Thus the great tithes, the ſheep-walk, and 24 acres of glebe, came to the priory; and after this the prior, deſirous to get the whole into his own hands, came to a perpetual compoſition with the prior of Coxford, for the moiety of the tithes of his manor.

In 1428 the prior of Buttley was taxed for his whole ſpiritualities here eight marks, and thus it remained till 1497, and then William Diſſe, vicar here, had an augmentation to his vicarage, but upon complaint that it was not yet endowed according to the ſtatute, it was diſappropriated in his ſucceſſor's time, and ſo became an abſolute rectory again, as it was before its appropriation, and hath remained ſuch ever ſince.

In

In 1554 the rector pulled down and deſtroyed the rectory-houſe, the ſcite of which joined to the weſt ſide of the church-yard, and from that time there hath been no parſonage-houſe: there are about 24 acres glebe, but the ſheep-walk of 250 ſheep, which belonged to the rectory, was granted off, during the impropriation, for an annual penſion of 26s. 8d. a year. It was valued in the king's books at 7l. 14s. 9d. ob. and being ſworn of the clear yearly value of 33l. 7s. 8d. it is diſcharged of firſt fruits and tenths, though it pays 12d. ſynodals, beſide the archdeacon's procurations. In 1603 here were 60 communicants, and now there are eight houſes, and about 50 inhabitants. It paid 43s. 4d. to the tenths, and is now (Blomfield) aſſeſſed at 202l. to the land tax.

The church hath a low round tower, and three bells; the nave and north porch are tiled, the chancel thatched, and north aile leaded. The following inſcription is on a marble in the chancel:—*Requieſcant ſub hoc marmore, reliquiæ Thomæ Wright, armigeri, qui plenior virtutum quam dierum mundum vidit et reliquit, 12mo. Aprilis*, 1667.

Here are alſo monuments to others of this family. —*Katherine Cropley, youngeſt daughter of ſir Charles Harbord, knt. ſurveyor to Charles I. amd ſecond relict of Thomas Wright, eſq. late wife of William Cropley, gent. died July* 6, 1664, *aged* 40 *years, and* 11 *months.*

Ann, the eldeſt daughter of George Vilett, of Pinkney, in the county of Norfolk, eſq. who was married to Charles Wright, of Kilverſtone, in the ſaid county, eſq. the twenty-ninth day of May, anno Domini 1691. *She died September* 29, 1709, *aged* 41.

On

On a grave-ſtone in the chancel,—*Here lieth interred Charles Wright, eſq. a man remarkable for many excellent qualities, a moſt affectionate huſband, an indulgent parent, a ſincere friend; his charity was unconfined, his liberality univerſal; his afflictions were great, his patience greater; he was a conſcientious obſerver of all religious duties, and remarkable zealous for the honor of God and religion. He departed this life in the true faith, and fear of God, in the* 64*th year of his age, on the* 14*th day of November, A. D.* 1729.

A grave-ſtone in the church,—*To Mary Pearſon, relict of the Rev. William Pearſon, L. L. D. late chancellor of the dioceſe of York. She was wife of the Rev. John Wright, and died April* 9, 1736, *ætat.* 72.

By the bounds of this pariſh is Ringmere-pit, which Mr. Salmon, in his Roman ſtations in Britain (page 9) takes notice of in theſe words. "On the ſide of "this way from Hockam, in Eaſt Wretham pariſh, is "a remarkable cavity, called Ringmere-pit, it is in "form of an amphitheatre, to the bigneſs of ſix or "ſeven acres, with an uniform deſcent on every ſide "to the arena. So exact is its figure, even yet, one "cannot help believing it was contrived for ſhow. "There was not in the latter end of October a drop "of water in it, which the wet ſummer muſt have "filled, if it ever had been a pond. More of this "kind I have heard of hereabouts, but not ſeen."

We muſt own, a ſtranger, who ſaw it in 1724, or 1725, (as we ſuppoſe Mr. Salmon did) when it was entirely dry, might have been of the ſame opinion with him, but it is nothing uncommon to thoſe that have been acquainted with it. It is a large cavity indeed, generally full of water, and the ground being ſand, the water occaſioned that uniform deſcent; it is ſupplied with

with land ſprings from the adjacent hills, which in that extreme dry year ceaſed running, and ſo the water ſhrunk into the ſand. It is a very old mere, or large water, as the Saxon name, which it ſtill bears, tells us, *Ringmere* being no more than the round-mere, or water. Mr. Blomfield ſays he has angled fine perch out of it, when he was a ſchool-boy at Thetford, and thought there were good fiſh in it when he wrote, it being ſtored, as he was informed, ſince it was laſt dry. But this pit is not to compare with that which lies nearer Croxton, and though it is three times as big, was then alſo dry: this is called Foulmere Pit; the greater part of the fiſhery belongs to the eſtate in Croxton, ſettled on the ſchool and hoſpital of Thetford, and that of Ringmere to the lord of Eaſt Wretham. There are other large pits on theſe heaths (though not ſo big as either of the former) that have water in them in winter, but being moſtly dried up in ſummer time, they look very regular to the beholder's eye.

In 1769 the Rev. William Norris was preſented to the rectory of Kilverſtone, by the crown.

LARLING, Lerling, Lurling, Lirling, or Larlingford*, is ſo called from its low ſituation on the river, upon the ford or biggeſt paſſage that any where croſſes it; it hath a well-known inn ſtanding by it, and the great poſt road from London to Norwich paſſing here, occaſions this village to be more known by travellers than ſuch places uſually are.

At the time of the Confeſſor's ſurvey there were two manors; the leaſt was then held by a free-man, and at the Conqueror's time was given to William

* Vulgarly pronounced Laring-ford.

earl Warren, who enfeoffed Hugh in it, it being then of 30s. value. The capital manor, both at the Confeſſor's and Conqueror's ſurvey, belonged to Ulketel, and the ſoc. or leet, and ſuperior juriſdiction, belonged at that time to Buckenham-caſtle, to which this hundred was then appendent; it was always of 40s. value. The town was then a mile long, and a mile broad, and the whole of every one's tenure paid 8d. ob. gelt.

This was afterwards called LARLING, or GONVILE'S MANOR, and went exactly as the capital manor of Ruſhworth, from the time of Ulketel till 1470, and then it was ſettled on Ruſhworth college, and from that time it continued in the college to its diſſolution; it was afterwards granted, as that was, to the earl of Surrey, in 1541, and alienated in 1542, by the king's licence, together with the advowſon, to John Allington, of Weſtley, in Cambridgeſhire, eſq. Robert Allington, his ſon and heir, ſold it in 1570 to Thomas Lovell, gent. and his heirs, at which time it extended into Roudham, Shropham, and Illington: it was held of the crown by knight's ſervice, and formerly of the lord Bardolph; he was ſucceeded by ſir Francis Lovell, knt. who conveyed it to John Langworth and others, and they to Robert Houghton, of Shelton, eſq. who left it mortgaged to William Wherewood, eſq. he preſented, with the conſent of Robert Houghton, of Ranworth, eſq. his ſon and heir, who was left a minor. In 1682 Charles Houghton, eſq. was lord and patron, who mortgaged it to ſir Edward Hungerford, and after to Paul Jodrell, eſq. About 1273 it was conveyed to Richard Sturgeon, eſq. and ſince that to the late ſir Edmund Bacon, of Garboldiſham, bart. who was lord and patron, and preſented in 1735. William Woodley, eſq. of Eccles, is now lord and patron.

The

The leet belongs to the hundred, to which this manor paid 2s. quit-rent, and the town 2s. leet-fee, per annum.

The ancient ſcite, or manor-houſe, ſtood in a cloſe by the church, the moat that ſurrounded it being ſtill to be ſeen.

The fines are at the lord's will, and the eldeſt ſon is heir both in this and Chalkhill manor.

The MANOR of WELHOLM, (or Eaſthall, as it is ſometimes called) was ſplit out of Gonvile's manor about the beginning of the time of Henry III. in the 20th of whoſe reign Adam de Methelond held it of William Wauncy, who held it of the Bardolphs, and they of the earl Warren, as of his caſtle at Acre, by the fourth part of a fee. In 1315 Robert de Welholme was lord, and in 1401 John Bruſiyerd. In 1439 Oliver Groos, of Sloley, eſq. was poſſeſſed of two parts of it, which he gave to John Groos, of Irſtead, his youngeſt ſon. In 1532 Anthony Gurnay, eſq. ſettled the manor on John Tirrell, eſq. and others; in the ſame year ſir John and ſir Chriſtopher Heydon, knts. ſettled it on ſir Thomas Jermyn, knt. and ſoon after it extinguiſhed, the whole being manumiſed*, and the demeſnes divided into many parcels, moſt of which ſtill pay their proportions to the lord of the hundred, for the ſuit fines which were due from this manor to the hundred.

DENVER, or CHALKHILL MANOR, was given by the Conqueror to the earl Warren, who enſeoffed Hugh in it, whoſe deſcendents, the Bardolphs, held

* Mr. Clark, of Larling, owns the manor-houſe, called Eaſthall, and part of the demeſnes.

it at the third part of a fee; they granted it to the Denvers, to be held of them; Richard Denver owned it in 1218, and ſold the moiety of the advowſon, which till then belonged to this manor, to ſir Richard de Larling; from the Denvers it came to the Buckenhams, of Keteringham, who ſold off the demeſnes into divers hands, leaving the manor in their heireſs, who carried it to the Carrills; they ſold it to the Hollands; and in 1598 John Holland, of Wortwell, eſq. was ſeiſed of it; from this time the manor continued in the Hollands, till ſir William Holland ſold it to ſir Edmund Bacon, of Garboldiſham, bart. the late lord.

The church is dedicated to St. Ethelbert, and is a rectory, valued at 10l. 2d. ob. in the king's books, and pays 1l. 1q. yearly tenths, and 12d. ſynodals; it hath a rectory-houſe and glebe belonging to it.

The prior of Caſtle-Acre had two third garbs of the tithe corn of the demeſne lands of Denver manor, in this town, which were given to that priory by Oſbert de Denver, lord thereof, who afterwards gave them the land, called Oſborn's-Haugh, in Shipdham, in exchange for the ſaid tithes.

The prior of the canons at Thetford had lands in this pariſh, which in 1428 were taxed at 10s. but of whoſe gift we do not find.

In 1603 there were nine-two communicants, and now (Blomfield) there are about twenty-two dwelling-houſes, and 150 communicants. It paid 58s. 4d. to the tenths, and is now aſſeſſed at 280l. 10s. to the land tax.

The

The church and chancel are thatched, the tower is ſquare, and hath three bells, on which are inſcriptions.

There is a ſtone for Thomas Caton. gent. who died Nov. 28, 1712, aged 37, on which are his arms.

Another ſtone is laid over Sarah, wife of John Brett, who died Sept. 25, 1660.

There are three ſtones in the chancel, robbed of their braſſes.

In 1774 the Rev. James Parſon was preſented to the rectory of Larling by William Woodley, eſq. of Eccles.

ROCKLAND, or ROCKLAND-TOFT. Rokelunt, Rochelunt, or Rockland, as it is now called, ſignifies the hilly-land, which anſwers very well to the ſituation of theſe pariſhes, as well as Rockland in Henſtead hundred, which is ſituated on the declivity of a hill, joining to a large marſh, through which the river Yare paſſes in its courſe to Yarmouth. That this place was of ſpecial note in early times, is evident from its being the reſidence of the deans of ſo large a deanry as this, having no leſs than three pariſhes within its own bounds, beſides thirty other rectors and vicars under its juriſdiction, it containing all the pariſhes in Guiltcroſs and Shropham hundreds.

The pariſhes here are called St. Andrew's, All Saints, and St. Peter's, the two firſt of which were conſolidated in 1692; the church of St. Andrew falling into decay, and ſtanding not a furlong eaſtward from All Saints, was ſuffered to dilapidate;

the tower is ſquare, and is ſtill ſtanding; its three bells being ſtolen out of it ſome years ſince, were never heard of.

This town is called, to diſtinguiſh it from the other Rockland, Rockland Tofts, and St. Andrew's pariſh, is often named in evidences, about the time of Edward III. Toft, without any other addition: here is a meeting of people on Midſummer-Day, in the nature of a ſmall country fair, which they call The Guild, the remains, without doubt, of the guild of St. John the Baptiſt, which was held in St. Peter's church, before the Reformation.

The pariſhes of All Saints, and St. Andrew, are aſſeſſed together at 518l. 15s. to the land tax, as in Shropham hundred, and the pariſh of St. Peter, by itſelf at 230l. as in Wayland hundred, though we do not find it ever ſaid to be in that hundred till about 120 years ſince, at which time it was laid to Wayland; and the conſtables and ſurveyors are the ſame with Little Ellingham, their preſentments running, Ellingham Parva, cum Rockland-Toſts St. Peter. The whole was taxed together in Shropham hundred to the tenths, to which it paid 4l. 3s. 4d. there are now (Blomfield) about 300 inhabitants.

This and all the other deanries were in the biſhop's collation, and had peculiar ſeals appropriated to them, ſeveral of which we have ſeen, but never met with that of this deanry.

TOFT, or ROCKLAND ST. ANDREW'S rectory, was valued in the king's books at 5l. 14s. 4d. and is called Rockland Major in many evidences; it paid 2s. ſynodals, and 6s. 8d. procurations. The canons of Thetford had temporal rents here taxed at 20s. ob.

and

and the prior of Buckenham's temporals were taxed at 4s. 10d.

Rockland All Saints rectory was valued in the king's books at 5l. 6s. 8d. and ſworn, together with St. Andrew's, of the clear yearly value of 44l. ſo that it is capable of augmentation; it paid 12d. ſynodals, and the prior of Caſtle Acre had a portion of tithes, which was taxed at 10s. and was given with their portion in Rockland St. Peter. This pariſh is ſometimes called Rockland Minor, or the Leſſer Rockland, in oppoſition to St. Andrew's pariſh, which is called Rockland Major, or the Greater Rockland.

This church hath a ſquare tower and three bells; the nave, ſouth porch, and chancel, are thatched: there is no inſcription in it, ſave one on a modern ſtone, for a Mr. Salter.

In 1750 the Rev. Francis Wotton was preſented to the united rectories of Rockland All Saints and St. Andrew, by Mrs. Mary Hutcheſon.

Rockland St. Peter's rectory was valued at 4l. 16s. 5d. ob. in the king's books, and being ſworn of the clear yearly value of 29l. 18s. 8d. is capable of augmentation; it pays 12d. ſynodals. The prior of Caſtle Acre had a portion of tithes taxed at two marks, and other temporals, taxed at 20s. all which were given by John de Kiteſtune's, or Caſton's, father, and confirmed by himſelf, namely, two tithe ſheaves out of three of all his demeſnes in Rockland, and the third tithe ſheaf of his demeſnes in Shipdham, and above fourteen acres of land in Rockland.

In 1349, Nov. 24, the church of St. Peter at Rockland Toſts, belonging to the abbeſs of Mar-

ham, was appropriated to that houſe by the conſent and approbation of the pope and the biſhop*, on condition that the biſhop, or his ſucceſſors, at the church's vacancy, ſhould ordain a vicarage, for which the vicar ſhould be taxed at ſix marks, the vicars being always to be nominated by the biſhop, to the abbeſs, who was obliged to preſent them, and alſo to pay a penſion of half a mark a year to the biſhop, in lieu of the portion of his firſt-fruits, for the great tithes, which ceaſed upon the appropriation; the vicar was to have a houſe, and to be endowed to the value of twelve marks per ann. at leaſt, and the abbeſs was taxed at eight marks for the rectory.

The Rev. Leonard James, rector, was barbarouſly murdered by Mr. Lowe, his curate, with his wife's conſent, on Twelfth-night, anno 1608, for which the firſt was hanged, and the laſt burned. There was a book printed at London for Robert Bonain, anno 1609, "of the bloody murder of maſter James, miniſter at Rockland, in Norfolk, committed by Mr. Lowe, his curate, and conſented to by his wife, for which they were both executed."

The church of St. Peter, which is the deanry church, hath nothing remarkable in it; the north porch was built about 1619, as a broken inſcription informs us. The tower is octangular, and hath three bells in it; the chancel is ruined, a ſmall part of which was re-built by a late rector to officiate in.

This pariſh of Rockland St. Peter lies in the hundred of Wayland,

In

* William (Bateman) biſhop of Norwich gave to the nunnery (of Marham) the appropriation, the pariſh church of St. Peter, in Rockland, in the dioceſe of Norwich, anno 1349.

In 1768 the Rev. Grigſon Heyhoe was preſented to this rectory by Jermyn Heyhoe, gent.

There are now only three diſtinct manors in this town, called Carbonel's, Lady's, Kirkhall Moynes and Gurneys, though there were formerly no leſs then ſeven before they were united.

CARBONEL'S MANOR, with the advowſon of St. Andrew, belonged to Brode in the Confeſſor's time, and to William earl Warren in the Conqueror's, of whom Simon held it, the whole town being then above two miles long, one broad, and paid 11d. gelt. In 1194 Baldwin de Roſſei, or de Roſſeto, held it of the earl Warren at one fee. In 1234 Robert Carbonel was lord. Soon after, 1399, it was divided, and one part, with the advowſon, came to the Holditch's, who preſented till 1571, and afterwards ſold it to ſir Ralph Chaumberlain, knt, reſerving two or three turns to the family; the other part went to William de Narburgh, whoſe daughter, Ella, married Thomas Shouldham, and had a ſon by him of his father's name, but he did not inherit, the manor being given by his mother to Henry Spelman, her ſecond huſband, and his heirs. In 1606 Francis Spelman, eſq. was lord of Carbonel's, in Rockland, in which family it hath continued, it being owned by Mrs. Elizabeth Spelman, of London.

The leet belongs to the hundred. the fine is at the lord's will, and the eldeſt ſon is heir.

KIRKHALL MOYNES, and GURNEY'S, were diſtinct manors at firſt, though they have been long united; the firſt was held by Eudo the ſewer, of whom Richard held it; and the ſecond by Ringull, in the Confeſſor's time, and by Roger Fitz-Renard at the Conqueror's

Conqueror's ſurvey: to Moyne's manor the advowſon of All Saints was appendent, and belonged to John le Moyne, who held it at three quarters of a fee of William Blaumiſter, and he of the earl Warren, in the time of Henry III. In 1282 ſir John le Moyne, of Weſton, in Cambridgeſhire, had this manor and advowſon ſettled on him, whoſe heirs in 1285 had view of frank-pledge, and aſſize of bread and ale allowed here. It afterwards went by marriage to ſir John de Brokeſbourne, and ſir John de Sutton, of Wivenhoe, knt. and from them paſſed into many families. In 1546 John Berney ſettled his manor, called Barrie's, alias Gurney's, on Ralph Chaumberlain, eſq. who afterwards purchaſed one part of Carbonel's manor, and the advowſon of St. Andrew's; and in 1639 ſir Richard Berney, bart. was owner, in whoſe family they continued till Richard Berney, eſq. (who died in 1695, at Reedham) mortgaged them, and Mrs. Ann Martell, widow, preſented under the mortgage; in 1709 they were ordered by decree in Chancery to be ſold to pay Mr. Berney's debts, and were ſold accordingly to colonel Windham, of Earſham, and ſince owned by Joſeph Windham-Aſh, eſq.

The leet belongs to the hundred, the fine is at the lord's will, and the eldeſt ſon is heir.

Kirkhall before the union belonged to the family ſirnamed de Caſtleton, Cakeſton, or Caſton, and was originally a part of the manor of Caſton-Hall that extended into this town, though it was taken as a ſeparate manor very early.

In 1373 Catherine, widow of ſir John de Caſton, conveyed Kirkhall manor to Thomas Caus, of Hockham, and his heirs; and in 1387 William Faſtolf releaſed all his right in the manor to Richard Caus,

in

in whoſe family it continued, though ſometimes in truſtees hands, till it was united to Moyne's.

Barry's Manor belonged to a family ſirnamed de Rockland, and was ſplit out of Moyne's manor for Maud de Rockland, and her ſeoffees held it in the time of Henry III. of John le Moyne, at a quarter of a fee. In the time of Edward I. it was divided, and Richard Barry had one part, whoſe daughter, Joan, married ſir Robert de Caſton; after that it fell to John de Caſton, whoſe daughters, Elizabeth, married to Robert Carbonel, and Alice, to William Faſtolf, in the time of Edward III. when this part was joined to Carbonel's manor; the other part continued in the Rocklands. In 1338 William de Reedham had it, and it went with the Reedham eſtate to the Berneys. Not long after (1441) Kirkhall part was united to Kirkhall and Moyne's, with which it continues; but Barry's continued in the Berneys; and in 1527 John Berney, eſq. died ſeiſed; after which, about 1546, it was united to Kirkhall.

Mortimer's Manor was held by Conſtantine de Mortimer in the time of Henry III. at one fee of the earl Warren, who held it of the king in capite; it continued in that family a long time, and paſſed as their manor of Attleburgh did; in 1337 Conſtantine de Mortimer, eſq. had a charter for free-warren in his lordſhip; it deſcended with Scoulton to ſir John Fitz-Ralph, knt. who married Margery, grand-daughter and co-heireſs of ſir Robert Mortimer, who had iſſue John Fitz-Ralph, eſq. whoſe ſon, John, had Elizabeth, his co-heireſs, who enjoyed it in fee-ſimple after her grandfather's death, with Ellingham, &c. they being ſettled by her grandfather on her, to perform his laſt will, and from this time it was joined to Kirkhall and Moyne's.

Lady's

LADY'S MANOR at the ſurvey was by held Payne, or Pagan, of Roger Bigot; and in 1218 by Richard Fitz-Roger, at half a fee. Richard Hockham, of Little Hockham, ſold it to Henry Pakenham, eſq. of Shropham. who in 1445 ſettled it abſolutely on Elizabeth Bigot, his wife, and her heirs. After this it paſſed through many hands, till William Neele, of Ellingham Parva, in 1524, ſold it to Robert Sibbs, of Counſton, in Suffolk; and Robert Sibbs, of Hawley, in Suffolk, his ſon and heir, in 1594, ſold it to Edmund Sarjent, of Coneweſton, who in 1598 ſold it to William Muſket, of Hawley, in Suffolk, gent. it fell to the ſhare of Henry Blomefield, of Fersfield, gent. who married Ann Muſket, a co-heireſs; he at his death left it to Henry Blomefield, of Briſingham, gent. his only ſon, at whoſe death it went to Style Blomefield, of Blonorton, gent. his eldeſt ſon, who dying ſingle, it deſcended to Mr. Henry Blomefield, of Fersfield, his only brother, who was lord.

The manor-houſe is dilapidated; its ſcite is ſtill called Lady's, which name it aſſumed from the lady Bigot, its former owner.

The manors of Caſton-Hall, Attleburgh, Mortimer, *cum membris ex parte* Crowſhall, Ellingham Parva, Thompſon, and Scoulton Newlands, extend into theſe pariſhes.

There is a penſion of 2s. per ann. paid by the rector of St. Peter's to the duke of Norfolk, it being a perpetual compoſition for a meaſure of wheat which Robert de Rockland gave to the monks of Thetford, out of his lands here. (*Dug. Mon. Ang.* tom 1. fol. 665.) There is alſo a penſion of, 4s. per ann. paid to the duke from the rectory of All Saints, and another of 2s. from the rectory of St. Andrew,

Andrew, both being perpetual compoſitions for the prior of Caſtle-acre's portions of tythes in thoſe pariſhes. There is alſo a rent of 15s. a year paid to the duke from the manor of Kirkhall.

ROUDHAM, ROWDHAM, RUDHAM, RUDEHAM, or ROODHAM, takes its name from a remarkable *rode*, or croſs, that ſtood in it, upon the great road leading from Thetford to Norwich. The remaing ſtones of it were carried thence to Harling, about forty or fifty years ago, by Mr. Wright, who was then lord here. In the Confeſſor's ſurvey it was held by a freeman of Harold, at one carucate, but at the conqueſt it was divided into three parts, (beſides thirty acres that belonged to the manor of Bridgham). The firſt was in the Conqueror's hands, the ſecond belonged to William earl Warren, and theſe two conſtituted the capital manor called Roudham Weſt-acre. The third was held by Ralph, of Eudo the ſewer, and the whole ſoke, or ſuperior juriſdiction, belonged to Buckenham-caſtle, as part of the hundred, Liſius, the old owner, continuing his claim at this time againſt Eudo, who had got it from him by force, or by the Conqueror's gift. This was afterwards called Truſbutt's, or Newhall manor.

ROUDHAM WEST-ACRE MANOR was all in the earl Warren, the king having given him his part, but was divided again, and that part which was the king's was held of the earl, by a family ſirnamed from the town, till William de Rowdham gave it to the priory of Weſt-acre. The other part, with the advowſon, came from the earl Warren to the Bardolphs, and then to the Roſeis, or Roſets, and Lambert of Roſei gave his whole land at Roudham to the priory of Weſt-acre; the earl releaſed to that houſe the ſervice of that fee; and from this time the manor, impropri-

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ate rectory, and the advowſon of the vicarage, belonged to the priory till its diſſolution, and then fell to the crown. In 1546 the king granted it to Thomas Woodhouſe, who, the ſame year, ſold it to Francis Lovell, and his heirs; and from that time it hath paſſed with Eaſt Harling, with which it was ſold to the Wrights, who were lords, impropriators, and patrons.

The cuſtoms of both the manors are, that the eldeſt ſon is heir, and the fines are at the lord's will.

The leet belongs to the lord of the hundred, as it did at the time of the conqueſt.

Trusbutt's, or Newhall Manor, was in the family of the Caungethorps, Cringlethorpes, or Crownthorps, in the time of Henry III. held of Robert de Caſton, of whoſe family it was purchaſed, and Robert held it of Hugh Bardolph, and Hugh held it at the third part of a fee of the earl Warren; one half afterwards went to the Truſbutts, but was afterwards rejoined to Newhall. In 1439 William Halys conveyed Newhall, and Truſbutt's manors, to John Windham, eſq. In 1539 ſir John, and ſir Chriſtopher Heydon, knts. conveyed it to ſir Thomas Jermyn, knt. It afterwards belonged to the earl of Surrey, who ſold it to the Paynes, whoſe daughter married Brian Holland, and carried theſe manors to him; and upon his attainder the manor was ſeiſed, but it appearing to be ſettled on John Holland, ſon of Brian, and heir of Catherine, he enjoyed it, and was lord in 1572, and ſo continued to 1583, and then ſold it to Thomas Lovell, and his heirs, who joined it to the other, with which it now remains.

The

The church here conſiſted of one aile only, and a chancel, both which were thatched, having a ſquare tower ſtanding on the ſouth ſide, which ſerved both as a ſteeple and porch; it had two bells in it till 1714, and then there was a faculty paſſed to ſell one of them. Some years ſince, as the workmen were repairing the lead on the top of the tower, one of them blew the aſhes careleſsly out of his pipe, which fell on the thatch, and not being ſeen in time, burned the church and chancel, ſo that the walls only are ſtanding, in a ruinous condition, at this time.

There was only one inſcription in the church, which was on a braſs plate, placed there—*In memory of John Bringoe, late of Roudham, who died Auguſt* 14, 1658.

We find in the regiſters at Norwich, that in 1460 William Payne, of Roudham, gent. was buried in the chancel. In 1515 William Rammeſbury, of Roudham, eſq. was buried in the church.

This pariſh in 1603 had 86 communicants, but the greateſt part of it being purchaſed in, it is much waſted ſince that time, though there are now (Blomfield) about 120 inhabitants. It paid 2l. 14s. to the tenths, and is valued at 280l. 10s. to the land-tax.

The rectory of the pariſh church of St. Andrew, in Roudham, was appropriated to the priory at Weſt-acre, and the priors of that monaſtery were patrons of the vicarage to the diſſolution. It was valued at 4l. 16s. 5d. ob. in the king's books, but being ſworn of the clear yearly value of 23l. 2s. ob. it is diſcharged of firſt fruits and tenths, but ſtill pays 2s. ſynodals, beſides the archdeacon's procurations. The prior of Weſt-acre was taxed at ten marks for the impropriate rectory,

rectory, and the portion belonging to the abbot of Bury, which was appropriated to the hoſpital of our Bleſſed Saviour there, was taxed at 20s.

In 1615 twenty-ſix perſons were buried in this ſmall pariſh; there were five buried in one day.

The Rev. John Bolders was preſented to this vicarage by the late William Croftes, eſq. in 1763. Richard Croftes, eſq. of Weſt Harling, and repreſentative in parliament for the Univerſity of Cambridge, is now lord and patron.

SHROPHAM, SCEREPHAM, SERPEHAM, or SCROPHAM, was a town of more than common note when the hundreds were firſt appointed, as is evident from its giving name to the hundred; at preſent it is a common village, not ſo large by a great deal as many in this hundred are, though it conſiſts of three ancient villages, the two laſt of which have been ſo far loſt, that they are not ſo much as known by their original names of Breccles-Parva, and Broadcarr, or Bradcarr.

BRECCLES-PARVA, or LITTLE BRECCLES, at the time of the conqueſt, was a ſeparate town, belonging to Roger Bigot, having in it nine freemen under him. The manor was worth 10s. a year, and was then in Wayland hundred, but being given to the earl of Arundel by the ſaid Roger, with his daughter Maud, he added it to his hundred of Shropham, which belonged to his caſtle of Buckenham, and afterwards infeoffed the Breccles, who always held it of the earl of Arundel, at a quarter of a fee, as of his hundred of Shropham. Soon after, in 1402, it belonged to William de Narburgh, whoſe daughter Ela had it; ſhe firſt married Thomas Shouldham, and afterwards Henry Spelman, who died ſeiſed in 1494. In 1567

it

it belonged to Francis Woodhouſe, eſq. who ſold it to Thomas Shelton, eſq. at which time the manor was extinct, the whole being purchaſed in: it had then a ſold-courſe, and free fiſhery, and extended into Shropham, Breccles-Magna, and Hockham; it afterwards came to the Barkers: John Barker, eſq. the preſent owner, hath built a ſeat here, which is the only houſe in this place.

The church was a rectory, given by Roger Bigot, lord here, to the priory of Thetford, when he founded it, and ſo it came wholly to that houſe, to which it was confirmed by Henry II. but it being a very ſmall place, the monks agreed to take a penſion of 8s. a year from the rector of Shropham, in lieu of all the tithes. It was annexed to Shropham, and the church was demoliſhed before the time of Edward III. and the pariſhioners had the parochial chapel* of St. Andrew, in Shropham, which till that time belonged to Broadcar, aſſigned them for their pariſh church, Broadcar being then entirely united to Shropham; and this continued ſingle for ſome time, though not very long, for before 1332 the rectory and chapel was annexed to St. Peter and St. Paul's church, of Shropham, ſo that we meet with no inſtitutions to either of them. At the firſt ſettling the vicarage, part of the land in Little Breccles, which belonged to Thompſon college, was to pay all tythes to the college, but upon the laſt ſettlement, in 1414, the vicar was to receive all the great and ſmall tythes of Little Breccles, ſo that the vicar of Shropham is rector of Little Breccles at this time. In 1514, upon the complaint of the pariſhioners of Little Breccles, in the pariſh of Shropham,

* It ſtood about a furlong ſouth-weſt of Shropham church, the ſcite belongs to the vicar, it is ſtill incloſed, and is now called the Old Church-yard.

ham, ſetting forth, that, ſince the ſettlement, the vicar had neglected ſerving the chapel, contrary to the terms of the conſolidation, which notwithſtanding the appropriation was ſtill an entire rectory to him, the biſhop ſwore ſir Robert Morley, at his inſtitution in 1519, to perform ſervice in it to the pariſhioners of Little Breccles. This was demoliſhed about the time of Edward VI.

Broadcar, or Bradcar, was included in Shropham at the conqueſt, but was independent of it ſome time after, and had the parochial chapel of St. Andrew for their church, till it was reſigned to the pariſhioners of Little Breccles, when this was united to Shropham. It belonged to Roger Bigot at the conqueſt, and to Andrew de Hingham in 1235. It was afterwards added to, and became a part of Pakenham's manor, and was always held of the earls of Arundel, at half a fee, as of their hundred of Shropham, and is that part of Shropham which joins to the river by Snetterton.

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at 8l. 13s. 9d. and being ſworn of the clear yearly value of 30l. 2s. 6d. it is diſcharged of firſt fruits and tenths, and is capable of augmentation; it pays 2s. ſynodals, being endowed with the rectory-houſe, and all the glebe-land, except an acre and half, all the great and ſmall tythes of Breccles-Parva, and all other tythes in Broadcar and Shropham, except the tythes of corn and grain, which belong to the impropriation. In 1603 it had 120 communicants, and now (Blomfield) there are about 250 inhabitants. It paid 7l. 13s. 4d. to the tenths, and is now aſſeſſed at 61ol. 5s.

The prior of the monks at Thetford had divers ſmall pieces of land here, which were taxed at 2s.

The

The abbot of Bury, at the conqueſt, had a freeman who held thirty acres of him; this was afterwards appropriated to the uſe of the infirmary of that monaſtery, and the keeper of it received the profits till the diſſolution, and was taxed at 5s.

The temporalities of Bec abbey, and Okebourne priory, were taxed at 8s. 9d ob.

The prior of Buckenham was taxed at 6s. ob. for his temporalities, which were ſmall rents iſſuing out of divers lands in this town, paid to the priory manor of Buckenham, of which they were held.

In 1398 the maſter and fellows of St. Martin's college at Thomeſton (or Tomſon) obtained a bull from pope Boniface, to appropriate the church of St. Peter, at Shropham, together with the chapel of St. Andrew, thereto annexed, to their college for ever, on condition there ſhould be a vicarage ordained by the biſhop of Norwich, which ſhould be ſettled by him and his ſucceſſors to their pleaſure and liking, provided that the patronage of the vicarage ſhould belong to the maſter and brethren of the ſaid college, and accordingly the maſter and fellows of Thomeſton college preſented all the following vicars, till the diſſolution. In 1410 Alexander biſhop of Norwich, by virtue of the power reſerved in the bull of pope Boniface IX. and becauſe biſhop Henry Le-Deſpencer, his predeceſſor, who conſented to the appropriation, had appointed no further about the vicarage, but that it ſhould be worth twenty marks a year, beſides the vicar's dwelling in the rectory-houſe, further declared, and ſettled the vicarage in the moſt ample manner.

The mayor and commonalty of the city of Norwich have preſented ever ſince June 19, 1574, and are now patrons.

This church is a good building, having a ſquare tower, and five bells. On a braſs plate is this:—*Hic jacet Agnes Beny.*

On an old ſeat you may read this:—*Pray for the wyllfare of Thomas Beny, and Katherine his wyffe, anno Domini millimo* CCCCCXXVIII.

They ſeated the church at this time, and made the ſcreens between the church and chancel, and thoſe between the north aile and the chapel of St. Catherine, at the eaſt end of it. The chancel was glazed about 1380.

On three marbles in the chancel,—*Hic poſitus eſt Jacobus Barker, armigeri, (filius unicus et hæres Johannis Barker, de Thorndon, in com. Suff. gent.) obijt* 15° *die Feb. anno Domini,* 1718, *ætatis ſuæ* 58.

Mary, late wife of George Le-Hunt, of New Buckenham, gent. died June 30, 1721, *aged* 51 *years.*

John Hart, gent. died March 2, 1711, *ætat.* 67.

There remain in the windows the arms of Coggeſhall, and Pakenham, alſo of Murray, and Berton.

Breton's, or Pakenham's Manor, belonged at the Confeſſor's ſurvey to Anaut, and to earl Hugh at the Conqueror's, of whom Richard de Vernon then held it; it was worth 3l. in Anaut's time, afterwards 4l. The whole of Shropham was then above two miles long, and one broad, and paid 18d. gelt. The ſuperior

rior jurisdiction belonged then to the hundred, the lord of which hath the leet, and it extended into Snetterton, as it now does.

The first lord that we meet with after the conquest was Richard de Kanky. In 1230 Ralph de Jernemuth conveyed it to Richard Le Presture. In 1308 John Le Veyle, of Barningham, granted it to Peter Le Breton, of Shropham; it extended then into Snetterton, Wilby, Hargham, Larling, Brettenham, Illington, Rockland, and Stow-Bedon. After this it divided, but in 1367 Henry de Breton was lord, who this year left it to his two sisters, his heiresses. Lettice, and Agnes, whose son and heir, Henry de Pakenham, inherited her moiety; it was then held as parcel of Tateshale barony. Lettice married John Herring, of Thompson, whose son and heir, John Herring, was lord of his part in 1393.

About 1408 Henry Pakenham, esq. who lived at Shropham, in his manor-house called Pakenham-hall, became heir to Henry Herring, of Thompson, clerk, and so the whole of this part was joined in him. The other parts of the half fee, which was divided in 1345, were held in 1442 by the heirs of Henry Breton, Roger Caus, &c.

Robert Pakenham, of Shropham, esq. died in 1463, and was buried, according to his will, in the chapel of St. Catherine, at the east end of the north aile of St. Peter's church, in Shropham. He had large possessions in Norfolk, and Staffordshire, and left two daughters, his heiresses. Elizabeth married John Sturges, senior, and had the moiety of this manor in her right, and purchased the other moiety of Ann Dobbes, her sister, to whom she sold her moiety of Garboldisham. In 1558 Philip Appleyard had it,

and not long after it was united to Broadcar, with which it ſtill continues.

BROADCAR, BRADEKER, or BRADCAR, was a diſtinct manor belonging to Aluric in the Confeſſor's, and to Gilbert the Archer in the Conqueror's time, it being worth 30s. and afterwards 40; the ſoke belonged to the hundred. In 1235 Andrew de Hingham held Broadcar at half a fee, as part of the fees of Roger Bigot, which he gave to the earl of Arundel. This family obtained a charter of free-warren, and had view of frankpledge, and aſſize of bread and ale, allowed him in this manor. In 1295 Andrew de Hingham releaſed to Ralph de Coggeſhale the manor of Broadcar, together with the advowſon of Shropham church. Sir Henry de Coggeſhale, knt. &c ſold the advowſons of the church and chapel annexed, together with the manor of Broadcar, in Shropham, to ſir Thomas Shardelowe, knt. and his truſtees, who ſold him eſtates in Eſſex, by way of exchange. In 1391 Richard earl of Arundel and Surrey, chief lord of the fee of Broadcar manor, for 20l. granted licence to John Methwold, &c. the truſtees and feoffees of ſir Thomas Shardelowe, knt. to ſettle this manor, with the advowſons and appurtenances then held of him, as of his manor of Hockham, upon Alexander maſter of Thompſon college, and the fellows there, and their ſucceſſors for ever, on condition, that during the life of Philippa, the earl's wife, the college ſhould pay her 20s. at every vacancy, as a relief, in lieu of all ſervices. This is dated at Caſtle-acre, in the earl's caſtle there, the 10th day of June, in the year aforeſaid; and in 1394 the truſtees ſettled them on the college, where they continued to its diſſolution, and were granted in 1540 to ſir Edmund Knevet, knt. together with the whole revenues of the college; and in 1541 he had licence to ſell Broadcar, the rectory, and the advowſon of the vicarage,

vicarage, to John Flowerdew, and his heirs. who in 1545 ſold them to Edward Billingham; he in 1546 to Thomas Clere; and he in 1547 to ſir Anthony Heveningham, whoſe ſon, ſir Anthony Heveningham, knt. ſold them to the mayor and commonalty of the city of Norwich, who are now lords, impropriators, and patrons.

MUDIGWELL, or MUDINGWELL'S MANOR, was owned by Eudo the ſewer, of whom Rowland held it at the ſurvey; it had been worth 60s. but was fallen to 37s. it was held of the hundred. In 1198 Julian and Emma, daughters of Richard de Broadcar, ſold it to Wimer de Shropham,. In 1279 Philip de Mudigwell, of Shropham, renewed the rental, and after this it was much divided; the chief part, however, continued to be a manor, and in 1341 Henry Mudingwell was lord. In 1385 Robert de Aileſham conveyed it to ſir Miles Stapleton, and ſir Roger de Boys, knts. In 1506 John Dade, of Witton, in Norfolk, died ſeiſed of Mudingwell manor, in Shropham. In 1561 John Wade, gent. ſold this manor to ſir Thomas and ſir William Woodhouſe, knts. ſince which time it hath been divided into ſo many parcels that it is now extinguiſhed.

In 1753 the Rev. John Standerwick was preſented to the vicarage of Shropham by the corporation of Norwich.

Shropham is the ſeat of John Barker, eſq. late lieutenant-colonel of the Weſt Norfolk regiment of militia.

SNETTERTON, SNYTTERTON, SNETRETUNA, SNISTERTUNA, or SNISTERTON, is a village lying between Hargham and Larling, and had in it two pa-

riſh churches, one dedicated to All Saints, and the other to St. Andrew the Apoſtle, which is now down, and the ruins with difficulty found in the Hall-yard.

The church of All Saints, the preſent pariſh, is a good building, having a nave, north aile, north porch, ſouth porch, and chancel, leaded, a ſquare ſteeple, and four bells.

In the nave, on a ſmall braſs in a ſeat,
Orate pro anima Cecilie Bokynham, filie
Georgii Bokynham, et Margarete uxoris ſue.

Over the rood is a defaced painting of the Laſt Day. The windows contain the hiſtory of the Revelations, with the Apoſtles, each having a ſentence of the Creed in a label from his mouth.

The eaſt window of the north aile is filled with angels, ſupporting the arms of Morley, impaling quarterly De-la-Pole, and Wingfield; Bokenham, &c.

Other windows in the north aile have the hiſtory of the creation, of Chriſt's baptiſm, of St. Chriſtopher, &c. with the legends in labels.

In the chancel are many diſrobed ſtones of the Bokenhams; on one are the arms of that name.

Two inſcriptions are preſerved by Mr. Weaver, one of which is,—*Orate pro anima Georgii Bokenham, armigeri, de Sniſterton, filij et heredis Johannis Bokenham, qui obijt* XXI° *die Octobris, anno Dni.* MCCCCCXXIII. *cujus anime propicietur* : : : : :

In

In the eaſt chancel window,— : : : : *Aia: Mri: Roberti Spylman, et amicor ſuor* : : : : 1450.

In the north chancel window the cup and wafer in a glory, with Spylman's arms over it, and this underneath:—*Magiſter Robertus Spylman confidit in Domino.*

This Robert in 1446 was inſtituted rector, at the preſentation of Edmund Bokenham, of Snetterton, eſq and about 1450 he new glazed the chancel windows with beautiful painted glaſs, when the church windows were glazed by the pariſhioners, and the north aile windows by the lord.

The rectory is valued in the king's books at 12l. 17s. 1d. and pays 1l. 5s. 8d. ob. yearly tenths; it hath a good rectory-houſe* joining to the ſouth ſide of the church-yard, with a convenient glebe belonging to it of ſixty acres.

On June 3, 1435, the church of St. Andrew, in Snetterton, was conſolidated to the church of All Saints there, at the requeſt of Edmund Bokenham, then patron of both, and of Thomas de Boſvyle, rector of both; and being thus joined about the time of Henry VIII. the church was pulled down. At the time of Norwich Doomſday Hugh de Kyweſle, or Kineſle, was patron, and the rector had a houſe and ten acres of land. This advowſon was purchaſed by ſir Hugh de Bokenham of Ralph de Kineſle.

A guild-

* In 1267 Thomas de Ingaldeſthorp, rector, purchaſed a meſſuage and twelve acres of land, after the death of Ralph Corde, rector of St. Andrew's, and ſettled it on his ſucceſſors for ever. He was afterwards dean of St. Paul's, and biſhop of Rocheſter, and died in 1291.

A guild-hall ſtood on the other ſide of the road, againſt the end of the chancel, which was diſſolved in the year 1548, and the hall and four acres of land thereto belonging came to the crown, and there continued till queen Elizabeth, by letters patent, dated Jan. 26, 1569, granted it to Nicaſe Yetſwert, eſq. and Bartholomew Brokeſby, and their heirs, to be held of her manor of Eaſt Greenwich, in free ſoccage, by fealty only, and not in capite, without any annual payment whatever; afterwards it was ſold ſeveral times, before the lord purchaſed it and pulled it down.

In 1528 the prior of Buckenham was taxed at 3s. 10d. ob. for his temporalities in this town, which were divers ſmall pieces of land given to their houſe by the Bokenhams. It paid to the tenths 3l. 10s. is now aſſeſſed to the king's tax at 420l. and hath about 200 inhabitants.—*Blomfield.*

Snetterton, in the Confeſſor's time, was two towns, the ſouth part of it, with All Saints church, was known by the preſent name, but the north part, with St. Andrew's church thereto belonging, was then called Aſſebei, or Aſhby, and continued that diſtinction at the Conqueror's ſurvey, and ſome time after. Snetterton part was owned by Ailwin in the Confeſſor's time, and by Roger Bigot in the Conqueror's, of whom Ralph, brother of Ailwin, then held it, the manor being worth 20s. The whole of Snetterton and Aſhby was two miles long, and one broad, and paid 17d. 1q. Dane-gelt. Aſhby part was held by earl Ralph in the Confeſſor's days, and by him forfeited to the crown; the Conqueror committed it to earl Godric's care, at which time it was of the ſame value as Snetterton. Theſe two parts afterwards became four manors, Oldhall, Newhall, Carhall, and Grimes's, the

the cuſtoms of which are, that the fines are at the lord's will, and the eldeſt ſon is heir; they have no leet belonging to them, but it always did, as it now doth, belong to the lord of the hundred, to whom they pay a leet-fee of 2s. 4d.

The MANOR of OLD-HALL was part of Snetterton at the conqueſt, Ailwin was lord of it in the Confeſſor's time, and Ralph, his brother, held it at the ſurvey of Roger Bigot, who enfeoffed William de Albany in it, upon his marrying his daughter, Maud, of whom Richard de Snetterton, the deſcendent of Ralph, held it; he was ſucceeded by Hugh, (firſt ſirnamed Rufus, or the Red, and afterwards de Buckenham, and ſometimes de Snetterton) his ſon, whoſe ſon, William de Snetterton, alias de Buckenham, married one of the daughters and co-heireſſes of ſir Benedict de Angerville, lord of Weſt Newton, Weſt Harling, and of Kerhall, in Snetterton, all which came to the ſaid William, and Nicholas de Beauſo, who married the other heireſs. In this family of Buckenham, or Bokenham, Snetterton paſſed from father to ſon, till Edmund de Bokenham died at Norwich, in 1479, without iſſue, and George, ſon of John Bokenham, eſq. of Livermore, his couſin, was to be his heir. From him this eſtate deſcended lineally to Thomas Bokenham, eſq. who died Dec. 9, 1535, ſeiſed of all theſe manors, leaving John his ſon and heir, then above one year old, and was buried in the Temple church, with this inſcription:—*Hic jacet Thomas Bokynham, armiger, filius et hæres Georgij Bokynham, nuper de Snitherton, in com: Norfolk, armigeri, et Margarettæ uxoris ejus, filiæ et heredis, Franciſci Heath, arm: qui quidem Thomas obijt* IX° *die Decembris, anno Dni:* 1535, *et anno regni regis Henrici Octavi, viceſſimo Septimo, cujus animæ propicietur Deus, Amen.*

John

John Bokenham, of Snetterton, eſq. the laſt heir male of this family, was born Aug. 29, 1534; he married Lucy, daughter of ſir Clement Heigham, of Barrow, in Suffolk, knt. who after his death married again to Francis Stonard, gent. and died Aug. 1, 1551, leaving the manors of Oldhall, Newhall, and Carhall, in Snetterton, and the advowſons, the manors of Thelvetham, and Livermere, and the advowſons, &c. to Dorothy Bokenham, his only ſiſter and heireſs, then 17 years old, who married Thomas Carrill, of Suſſex, eſq. ſon of ſir John Carrill, knt. attorney of the Duchy of Lancaſter, and died June 7, 1560; Thomas Carrill, her huſband, died Nov. 21, 1563, leaving ſir John Carrill, of Warnham, in Suſſex, knt. their ſon and heir, who in 1577 had livery of Oldhall, Newhall, Carrhall, and Livermere, &c. to him and his heirs; and in the year 1598, Nov. 20, he ſold Snetterton to Ralph Hare, eſq. brother and heir of that Nicholas who built Stow manor-houſe; he ſettled it on his nephew, Ralph, afterwards ſir Ralph Hare, knt. who kept his firſt court Jan. 10, 1604, and was father of ſir John Hare, of Stow-Bardolph, knt. who by his will, dated Dec. 21, 1635. gave the manors and eſtate here (after the death of Elizabeth, his wife, on whom it was ſettled for life) to John Hare, his ſecond ſon, who married Suſan, daughter and co-heireſs of John Walpole, of Broomſthorpe, gent. and enjoyed it to his death, in 1689, and then left it to John Hare, gent. his ſon, who was afterwards Richmond Herald, and a very ingenious antiquary; he died about 1720, without iſſue, and left his eſtate to Mrs. Ann Hare, his ſiſter, who kept her firſt court in 1721, and died in 1724, leaving it to Catherine and Suſan, daughters of Philip, ſon of Edmund Bedingfield, eſq. of Broomſthorpe, in Gallow hundred, by Elizabeth Hare, her only ſiſter; and

they

they in 1725 conveyed the manors, advowſon, and eſtate, to Mr. Thomas Goddard, of Snetterton.

PARISH'S, or GRIMES'S MANOR, was made up of ſeveral parts, one part was taken out of Kerhall before 1195, when Robert Mortimer releaſed it to John L'Eſtrange; another part was taken out of Newhall manor, in the time of Henry III. the whole being then held by Hugh Doraunt, of Snetterton, by the twentieth part of a fee. In 1350 Thomas Doraunt, of Snetterton, chaplain, ſold it to Richard Paris, of Hargham, from whom it took the name of Pariſh's. It afterwards belonged to the Grimes's, and was ſold by them to the Debneys, who ſold it to Mr. Robert Smith, of Carleton-Rode, who held the manor of Grimes, alias Paris, alias Pariſh, in Snetterton, Roudham, Eccles, Illington, Harling, Larling, and Bridgham, of ſir Ralph Hare, knt. as of his manors of Oldhall, Newhall, and Carhall. His grandſon, Robert Smith, ſold the manor to ſir John Hare, who gave it by will to Thomas, his youngeſt ſon, in tail, who cut off the entail, and ſold it to his brother, Nicholas Hare, of Hargham, eſq. in whoſe family it ſtill continues, Hugh Hare, of Hargham, eſq. being now lord.

The MANOR of KERHALL, or CARRILL, was included in the Snetterton part at the conqueſt, and went with Oldhall manor, till the feoffment of that in Richard de Snetterton, from which time it remained in the Albanys, who in the time of Henry I. enfeoffed the Angerviles, with whoſe daughters and heireſſes it went equally to the Bokenhams, lords of Oldhall, and the Beaufos, with whoſe heireſs one moiety went to the Bardwells, and continued in that family till ſir William Bardwell, knt. conveyed his manor of Snetterton, which Margery, the wife of ſir John

John de Tudenham. knt. held for life, to Hugh Bokenham, and his heirs, and ſo it became joined to the manor of Oldhall, with which it hath paſſed ever ſince, and the ſaid Hugh conveyed his manor of Weſt Harling to the ſaid William, in exchange.

NEWHALL, or ASHBY MANOR, belonged to the crown till it was divided, and one part given to the biſhop of Norwich, who infeoffed it in the Rooſes, to hold it of the biſhop at a quarter of a fee, as parcel of his barony; and the other part, with the advowſon of St. Andrew's, belonged to the Bigots, who gave it to the Albanys; they enfeoffed ſir John Straunge, knt. who enfeoffed the Kerſalls, Kyneſdeles, or Kineſles, and Jeffery de Kyneweſdele, ſon of ſir Hugh Kineſle, divided it into three, or more parts; the advowſon and half the manor he ſold to ſir Hugh de Bokenham, father of ſir Ralph, who joined it to Oldhall. Another part became part of Paris's manor, and a third part, called Aſhby Cloſes, continued in the family ſome time; but was afterwards ſold by Thomas le Haſtelen, of Aſhby, in 1317, to Robert de Stokes, clerk: this was purchaſed by the Bokenhams in the time of Henry VIII. and joined to their manors, and being held of the biſhop, was taken with the other revenues of his barony, and ſo became held of the crown. In 1665 it paid a caſtle-guard rent of 1s. 9d. a year to the king, that being the old rent that the whole manor uſed to pay the biſhop, towards the guard of Norwich caſtle, and was laid on this part at the diviſion of the manor. That part which always went by the name of Newhall belonged to the Rooſes, and was purchaſed by the Bokenhams about 1425, and joined to their other manors.

There

There was a family ſirnamed de Aſhby, that lived and had a good eſtate in Aſhby, in Snetterton, in the time of Edward III.

The Gonviles had many lands, tenements, villains, and ſervices, in this town, which belonged to their manor in Larling.

There was alſo a part of Pakenham's manor, in Shropham, which extended hither, and hath paſſed with that manor from the conqueſt to this preſent time; it then contained forty acres, and belonged to earl Hugh, and now it is owned by the city of Norwich, as that manor is, and is taxed at 9l. per ann.

In 1772 the Rev. Combe Miller was preſented to the united rectories of Snetterton St. Andrew, and All Saints, by the right honorable the earl of Albemarle.

HISTORY

THE HISTORY OF NORFOLK.

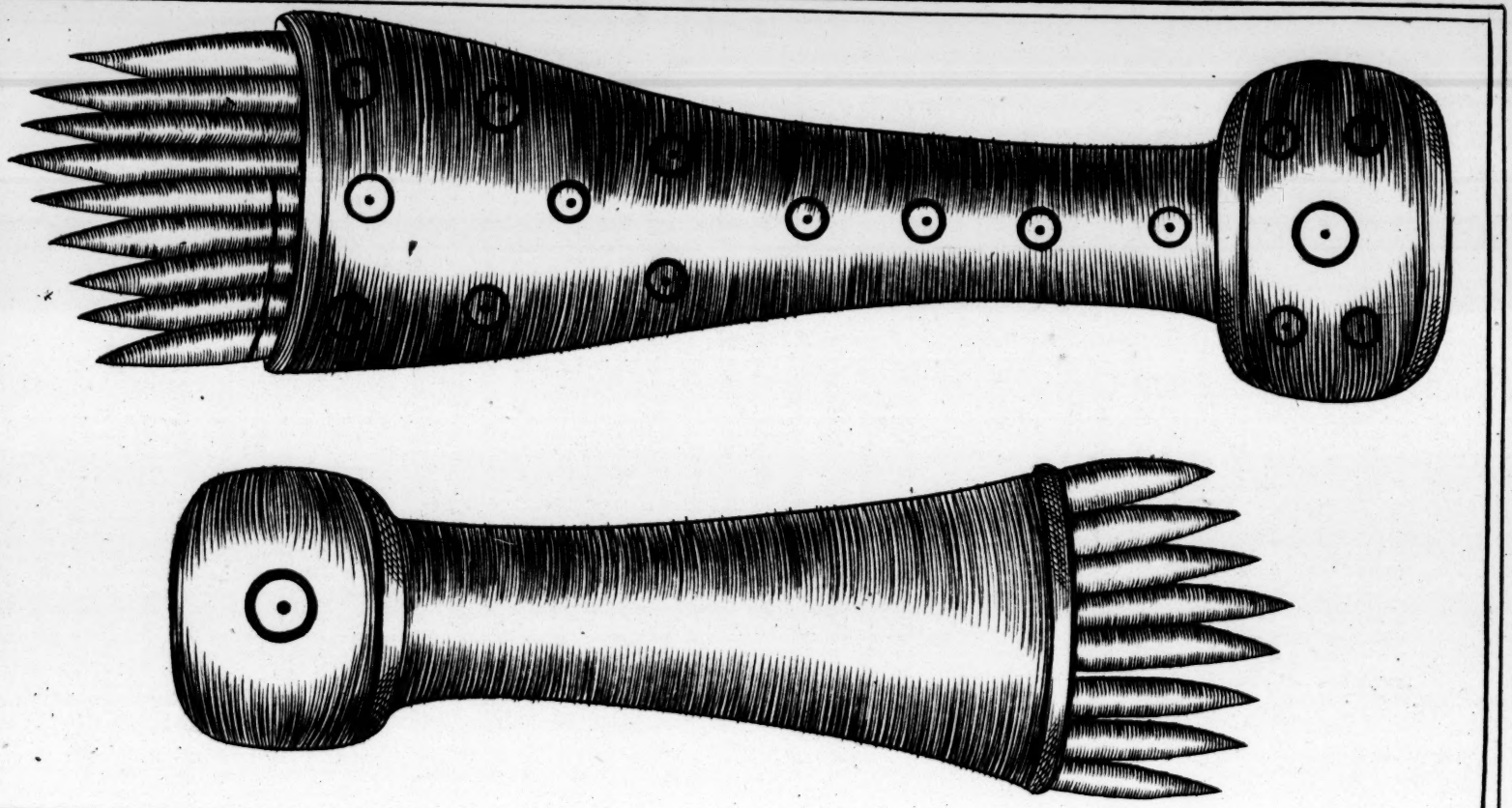
THETFORD.

THE hiſtory of the riſe and progreſs of cities, venerable for their antiquity, or eminent for military exploits, feeds the mind of man with the moſt pleaſing reflections;—among ſuch, none claims our attention more than the ancient Sito-magus, the royal city, as it is called, of the Iceni. Antiquarians have been divided in their ſentiments, whether the modern Thetford is the ancient Sito-magus:—But, Peutinger's table ſeems to have determined the point beyond a doubt; for under the 9th Iter, it is ſaid to have been xxxi M. P. or 51 miles, from Venta Icenorum, generally allowed to have been the modern Caiſter, near Norwich, and minutely anſwers to our

modern computation of the diſtance between the two places.—See Horſley's Diſſertation on Peutinger's table, folio 514.

Dr. Plot's ingenious letter to the right honorable Henry earl of Arlington, prefixed to Blomefield's Hiſtory of Thetford, in 4to. p. 3, ſeems to have ſuperſeded all thoſe fabulous accounts, with which ſome embrio-antiquarians have amuſed themſelves and others, with regard to the true name of this city. He has critically obſerved, that almoſt all the towns ſituated on the conflux of rivers end in magus; and have, for the moſt part, been fortified in the fordable places. —The propriety of his judgment is evident with regard to this place, ſince there are ſtill viſible traces of two fortreſſes, one at each fordable end of this town. The name of Sito-magus, therefore, as he juſtly obſerves, ſeems to have been given it, to have perpetuated the reſidence of the ancient Sitones, here; a famous people in Germany, taken notice of by Tacitus. The latter part, magus, was moſt probably added to point out the propriety of it, being fortified, which, according to Cluverius, in the old Celtick language, imports the ſame as the Latin word, *vadum*, a ford. As the Druids had the chief management of all public affairs, the religion of the Gauls contains the beſt part of their hiſtory; and as the language of Bretaigne, in France, is ſuppoſed to be the remains of the Celtick, a proper clue is opened to us, into the darkeſt times of this ancient city.—That the Iceni ſhould fortify it, is agreeable to the martial genius of that people, who are ſaid to have neglected all civil arts, in order to excel in war. In Richard of Weſtminſter's Hiſtory of Britain, as publiſhed by the learned Bertram, in 1757, p. 37, they were counted the moſt warlike of all the Britons, and Sito-magus was their capital city. The elaborate Horſley makes mention of Sito-magus in his ninth

AMULETS, *hung round the Breasts of the Druid Priests, in Sacrifice.*



To the Rev.d George Burton, Rector of Elden in Suffolk, this Plate is Respectfully dedicated

ninth Iter, and Ravenna in his Chorography of Great Britain, folio 515; all which determines Sito-magus to have been once the metropolis of the Iceni.

Our knowledge of Great Britain before the Roman invaſion is very dark and imperfect; but from late diſcoveries, Sito-magus ſeems to have claimed an unuſual notice, as it was moſt probably the reſidence of an Arch-druid prieſt; for in 1760, on digging under the rampart of the Caſtle-hill, in order to raiſe the ſurface of ſome adjoining meadows, two very curious bones were diſcovered, three feet at leaſt under the foundation of the rampart: they were very artfully buried in a large ſquare bed of dry ſand, and placed by each other's ſide, in the very centre of the bed. We have inſerted a drawing of them for the amuſement of the reader. In the Hiſtory of Thetford, publiſhed by the late Mr. Worth, p. 13, a very imperfect account is given of them; which, in juſtice to the judgment of that great antiquarian, Dr. Stukeley, I think it but equity to correct; wherein he is ſaid to have concluded them to have been combs for horſes manes. The Romans were too wiſe a people to have made their combs of ſuch brittle materials, and Dr. Stukeley too learned to have ſuppoſed them to have done ſo; nor would they have been made of ſuch ſhape. Dr. Stukeley's judgment, therefore, muſt have either been miſunderſtood, or miſrepreſented.—Thus much I owe to the memory of my deceaſed friend.—It is well known the Romans made their combs of different materials; there is in the poſſeſſion of the Rev. George Burton, rector of Elmden, in Suffolk, part of a Roman lady's comb, found in the neighbourhood of Thetford; and likewiſe an *acus crinalis*, or bodkin for the hair, both made of ivory. But the firſt ſight of theſe bones indicates the uſe of them; their being found ſo deep

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under the very foundation of the rampart, ſhews them to have been prior to the time of the Romans invaſion of this iſland. If we may be permitted to dive into the deep myſteries of thoſe dark times, they ſeem to have been amulets, hung round the neck of the Druid prieſt; for it is well known, that it was a common practice in the earlieſt of times to bury with the deceaſed thoſe things which were the moſt highly eſteemed by him when living. The round hole at the head of each ſhews they were made uſe of in a pendulous ſtate, and the fine varniſh on the upper ſide only, confirms this opinion, as the warmth of the breaſt rendered ſuch a varniſh needleſs on the lower ſide. At the end of each appears ſmall fingers, as they may be called, eight on one, and nine on the other, which might be deſignedly fixed on, as the Druids are well known to have dealt in myſtic numbers, as well as myſtic rites. The wearing of theſe might be intended to raiſe in their votaries an higher opinion of human ſacrifices, when they ſaw that the bones, either of men or beaſts, were made uſe of as the principal part of the Arch-druids dreſs. It may be eaſily accounted for why this part of the druidical dreſs may have eſcaped our notice, as the materials of which it was made were ſo brittle and periſhable. Many bones have been found in the environs of this city, about the ſame depth under ground; and it is aſſerted in an account publiſhed in the Republic of Letters, vol. 1ſt. p. 20, that the ſacrifice of men and beaſts made a principal part of the religion of the Druids; it is not improbable then to ſuppoſe, that, in order to heighten the veneration of the ſacrifice, theſe amulets were hung round the neck of the Arch-druid, upon extraordinary occaſions, and received additional veneration from the appearance of theſe myſtical fingers, or numbers. The whole of this, we confeſs, muſt be conjecture, but it is, if only amuſing,

amuſing, innocent, and may lead us into enquiries of greater importance.

Of this city under the Romans.—In the earlier time of the Romans poſſeſſion of this iſland, this city ſeems to have retained its ancient name, Sito-magus. Blomefield, Hiſtory of Thetford, p. 9, ſeems to think that the ramparts were then made by the Romans, becauſe the Roman road ran through them; but nothing concluſive can be gathered from thence, for by parity of reaſon, as the Danes ſucceeded the Romans in the poſſeſſion of this city, the works of the latter, it is moſt probable, ſhould deface thoſe of the former; which accounts for the road at preſent breaking through the Roman intrenchment from the ford. Beſides, as will hereafter be obſerved, the Roman invaſions were made on the ſouth part of the iſland, the Thames, and they do not appear to have been in poſſeſſion of this part of the iſland, in a profound peace, long enough to have raiſed ſuch mighty works; for though they wintered there, that was not a proper ſeaſon for ſuch operations; therefore, moſt probably, theſe were the works of the Danes, and not the Romans.

Of the city under the Saxons.—As Thetford was the metropolis of the Eaſt Angles, and flouri hed greatly under the Saxon government, we will take a curſory view of the origin of the Eaſt Angles, and their kings, as far as relates to their poſſeſſion of this part of the kingdom. Blomefield ſays, p. 21, the Iceni inhabited that part of Great Britain which the Eaſt Angles did under the Saxons. The kingdom of the Eaſt Angles comprehended Norfolk, Suffolk, and at ſome time Cambridge, which Uffa, one of the three principals of the Angles, united into one kingdom in 575, and ſettled at Sito-magus. The proſperity

and grandeur of this city ſeems to have been owing to the Saxons making it the metropolis of their kingdom; it was then that its new maſters gave it the name of Deodford, or Theodford, (which ſeems to correſpond with our derivation of Sito-magus.) From this time the city increaſed till A. D. 669, when Higden, in his Polichronicon, lib. 5, p. 239, according to Blomefield, which Treviſa alſo confirms, ſays, there was a ſynod of biſhops held under Theodorus at Tetforde. Offa, after the murder of Ethelbert, took poſſeſſion of the kingdom of the Eaſt Angles, and added to it his own; but the Danes ſoon made a fatal irruption, and from that time Thetford began to decline, till 826, when the Danes put the Eaſt Angles upon their guard, and gave them ſuch an alarm, as rather to ſeek to defend what they had, than to enlarge their territories at the hazard of all: it may then be ſuppoſed, theſe ramparts were raiſed, and conſequently ran through the Roman intrenchments.

Of the city under the Danes.—We have already obſerved, that the Saxons laid a proper foundation for the Danes to conquer the whole kingdom; this, therefore, ſeems to have been the moſt proper time for theſe mighty works to have been erected, for the Roman invaſions were always made in the ſouth part of the kingdom, and therefore it is moſt natural to ſuppoſe the Iceni would guard againſt their incurſions on the land ſide, which might lay a proper foundation for the ſubſequent intrenchments of the Danes; and as the Saxons and Danes made their irruptions by ſea on the Iceni, it is moſt probable they held a communication open with the ſea for their ſhipping, and intrenched themſelves only on the land ſide, to ſecure themſelves from ſurprize, that they might from thence make excurſions, as they frequently did, into the

the very heart of the kingdom, have a ſafe retreat, and in time unite the whole heptarchy under one king.

The Danes, envious of the happineſs of the Britons, fixed on the ſeat of the Eaſt Angles as the moſt likely place for them to pour in their legions, in order to conquer the whole iſland, as they might from thence, by a free communication with their ſhipping, have a conſtant ſupply at hand, in caſe of defeat. In 870, or 871, Ingwar and Hubba plundered and burned Thetford, and martyred king Edmond in the 16th year of his reign. Having waſted great part of the country, Ingwar again returned, and wintered at Thetford, with part of the Daniſh army. Edmond rallied his forces, and marched againſt the enemy;—a whole day was ſpent in this dreadful conflict, near the confines of the city, where many tumuli now mark out the place of action; but Ubba joining Ingwar with ten thouſand men, ſoon determined the fate of Edmond, whom they took priſoner, and ſhot to death with arrows; they cut off his head, and threw it into an adjacent wood, where, according to the enthuſiaſtic dreams of the time, they made his head, like friar Bacon's brazen head, to deliver an harrangue upon the occaſion; but the very recital of theſe fables diſgrace the dignity of hiſtory, therefore we only ſlightly touch them, in order to ſhow how little is to be depended upon the hiſtory of thoſe times. This iſland continued under the government of the Danes, without a king of its own, fifty years, till 878, when Alfred king of Weſſex forced Guthrun, the Dane, to ſue for peace, and on his ſubmitting to baptiſm, gave him Eaſt Anglia. In 879, Blomefield, p. 37, Athelſtane, or Gutrum, and his Danes, came hither, and divided the land amongſt them, as Fabian tells us, in his Chronicle: they fixed on the north ſide of the river, near their encampment, which they looked

upon as their great defence, in caſe of future attacks; and this appears to have been the original of the Norfolk part of the town, which from that time continually increaſed, as the Suffolk decreaſed, which is now reduced to one pariſh of about thirty houſes only.

Alfred, about 900, divided England into counties, or ſhires, and thoſe into centuries, wapentakes, hundreds, and tithings; this he did, becauſe the natives often robbed under colour of the Danes, for he obliged every one in the kingdom to be ranked under ſome hundred, or tithing; and if any man was found guilty, and fled, before or after he had given good ſecurity for his behaviour, all the inhabitants of that hundred, or tithing, where he dwelt, were put to their fine for his offence; by this ſufficient ſecurity was given for the peace of the kingdom, inſomuch that, as Malmſbury informs us, golden bracelets were publicly hung up, and no one dared to take them away. At this diviſion the river Ouſe, which runs through part of this town, was made the future boundary between the two counties; that part on the ſouth of the river, belonging to Lackford hundred, in Suffolk; and the other, on the north ſide, to Shropham hundred, in Norfolk, as they do now, though in the Confeſſor's time it was an hundred by itſelf.

Various were the conflicts with the Danes for the government of this kingdom, till Canute reigned. After this, Thetford recovered its ſtrength, till the time of Edward the Confeſſor. The reader may judge of its conſequence by an extract from the Doomſday-book, from which we learn, that in the hundred of Thetford was St. Mary's church, which archbiſhop Stigand held, to which four other churches were appendant; St. Peter's, St. John's, St. Martin's, and St.

St. Margaret's. In the burgh of Thetford were 944 burgeſſes in the time of king Edward, of whom the king had all the cuſtoms.

In the Conqueror's time there were 720 burgeſſes. The abbot of St. Edmondſbury had one church, and one houſe, tax free. The abbot of Ely had three churches, and one houſe, free. Archbiſhop Stigand had one church, and Roger Bigot one church; hence appears the importance of this town, from its extraordinary growth within thirty years.

The Biſhopric.—Upon the converſion of the Eaſt-Angles, by Sigebert, an epiſcopal ſee was founded at Dunwich, of which Felix, the Burgundian, was the firſt biſhop, who had only two ſucceſſors before the ſee was divided into two; one for Suffolk, at Dunwich, the other for Norfolk, at Elmham. William the Conqueror gave the Eaſt-Anglian Biſhopric to Arfaſt. his chaplain, and chancellor, who removed his ſee from Elmham to Thetford. Roger Bigot inſtituted here a monaſtery of Cluniack monks, by way of recompence for the removal of the ſee to Norwich. It gradually declined on this account, though it was the ſeat of many religious houſes. It continued a deanry for ſeveral centuries. The caſe of biſhop Nix is well known, who incurred a bill of præmunire for permitting an inhabitant of Thetford to be ſued in his conſiſtorial court, in prejudice to the dean and mayor; the former of whom claimed a right, that no one ſhould be drawn in plea into any court Chriſtian, but the dean's: the latter, that in caſe of ſuch infringement, the party being cited before the mayor, he ſhould fine him 6s. 8d. Upon this plea againſt the biſhop being brought to a hearing, the biſhop was caſt in a præmunire, and by a ſentence in the King's-bench, in 1534, obliged, by way of penalty, as it is ſaid, to purchaſe

purchaſe, and ſet up the glaſs windows in the chapel at King's college, in Cambridge. Not many years after this, power was veſted in the biſhop of Norwich, where it now remains. Henry VIII. made this biſhopric ſuffragan to Norwich, who preſented two perſons to the king for election. The deanry of Thetford contained all the city, with the churches of St. Cuthbert, St. Etheldred, St. Peter, St. Mary, and All Saints, and the two Snarehills, and Santon by Downham, and had peculiar juriſdictions over all the churches and monaſteries, except the abbey, and the nunnery; the former claimed exemption for other places where they were concerned from all other ſpiritual courts, except that of the dean of Thetford.

Thetford Manor.—When William the Conqueror was eſtabliſhed on the throne of England, he began early to confer his favours on thoſe who had aſſiſted in advancing him to the royal dignity. Among theſe, William, firſt earl Warren, had the caſtle and manor of Thetford. This earl had very extenſive poſſeſſions in different parts of the kingdom at the time of making the Doomſday-book. In Norfolk he poſſeſſed 139 manors, and near 100 in Eſſex, Suffolk, Yorkſhire, and other counties. After archbiſhop Stigand's diſgrace, it being in the king's hands, he gave it to Arfaſt biſhop of Thetford, who gave it to his ſons. This manor paſſed through variety of poſſeſſors, but chiefly of royal extraction, till Edward VI. granted it to Edward duke of Somerſet; and he the ſame year conveyed it to Richard Fulmerſton, eſq. On his deceaſe it came to ſir Edward Clere, to Frances his widow, and ſir Edward Clere, his ſon and heir, who conveyed it to Thomas Howard, earl of Suffolk, and Henry earl of Northampton, who ſettled it on truſtees, and thus all the manors in this town became united, as they have ever ſince continued. In 1701 Thomas duke

duke of Norfolk held a court here, and conveyed it to the hon. Philip Howard; his only daughter, Ann, married, in 1762, Robert Edward lord Petre, who in her right is preſent proprietor.

Halwick Manor.—This manor is, and has been, as above obſerved, united to Thetford manor, and continues in the ſame lord, lord Petre. It was ſettled on the monks of Thetford by Roger Bigot, their founder. They held it on condition of finding two footmen for forty days, when the king went into Wales; and it continued in their poſſeſſion, when it was taken into the king's hands, and granted to Thomas duke of Norfolk, in exchange for ſome other manors, in other counties. When the duke was attainted, he was deprived of this, amongſt his other manors. Edward VI. granted it to his uncle, Edward duke of Somerſet, the duke to Richard Fulmerſtone, eſq. at whoſe deceaſe it paſſed with the Thetford manor.

Of the Town.—On the approach to this town, the many awful ruins of antiquity, ſtill viſible, recall to the ſpectator's mind the once flouriſhing ſtate of this ancient city. The Suffolk ſide contains but few houſes, yet has received an agreeable addition by a neat brick houſe at the entrance of the town, in the road from Elden, built by Mr. Alderman Thompſon; by other buildings, and an handſome front to the George inn. By tradition there were ſeveral churches and monaſteries on the Suffolk ſide, but time has almoſt worn out the very remembrance of them. The town, on the Norfolk ſide, has lately received a great improvement, by judiciouſly laying open the king's houſe to the ſtreet, by Mr. Cole, deputy recorder, and town-clerk; and by filling the area before the front of the houſe with flowering ſhrubs, and erecting an handſome palliſade the whole length of the front, which will prove

prove a great ornament to that part of the town. The trade of this town has been for ſome years paſt rather upon the decline, owing moſt probably to a neglect of the navigation; but an act for appointing commiſſioners of the 22d of Charles II. having been lately revived by a new commiſſion of the 24th of his late majeſty, there is great reaſon to hope its trade will ſoon regain its former vigour, and Thetford again flouriſh. The tolls of this town were given by Hameline earl Warren, in the reign of Richard I. to Walden abbey. Aſſizes were held here ſo early as Henry III. and Richard II.

Queen Elizabeth had a houſe in this town, which ſhe frequently viſited. King James, during the hunting ſeaſon, ſpent ſeveral years in this ancient burgh, in the houſe which is now in the poſſeſſion of Mr. Cole, till a neighbouring farmer, with more ruſticity than prudence, affronted the king for riding over his corn; ſince which it has loſt the royal preſence; yet it retains marks of royal diſtinction, in the favorable countenance of his grace the duke of Grafton, (whoſe elegant ſeat is about three miles diſtant from it) who honors them with being the preſent recorder, and whoſe patronage and generoſity promiſe them future proſperity.

The CHURCHES.

The viſible ruins of many churches and religious houſes beſpeak the former ſplendor of this once famous city. St. Mary's was the principal church in the Confeſſor's time. When he was depoſed, it was given to Arfaſt, who built the cathedral church on its ſcite. From that time it ceaſed to be a parochial church, the biſhop building Trinity church for that purpoſe. There were four churches appendant to it.

It

It is ſuppoſed to have ſtood on the ſpot where now the free-ſchool ſtands, and the houſe for the preacher and maſter of the hoſpital.

St. Peter's is one of the four churches that were appendant to St. Mary's. It ſtands on the Norfolk ſide, and is now the principal church. It paſſed with it, as Blomefield aſſerts, p. 77, till Arfaſt gave it to one of his ſons. William, the ſecond earl Warren, gave it to the monks of Lewes, with whom it continued to the diſſolution, at which time it was granted to the duke of Norfolk. On account of his attainder, it reverted to the crown, and was given by Edward VI. to the duke of Somerſet, of whom it was purchaſed by Richard Fulmerſton, eſq. in whoſe poſſeſſion it continued till the reign of Philip and Mary, when it was reſtored to the duke of Norfolk, in whoſe family it has continued ever ſince. In 1778 the Rev. Henry Charles Manning, M. B. was admitted to it, and is the preſent miniſter.

St John's was ſeated on the Suffolk ſide, and granted by John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaſter, to the Auſtin friars. It was one of the four churches appendant to St. Mary's, in the Confeſſor's time, and was given with that, to biſhop Arfaſt. At the diſſolution it was demoliſhed, and the ſcite granted to ſir Richard Fulmerſton, and ſold by his heir to the duke of Norfolk. There are no walls above ground, but the foundations are very viſible, cloſe by the road leading to Brandon, on the left hand, between the Canon's-barn and the Red-caſtle.

St. Martin's.—No traces of this church are to be found, but moſt probably it was on the Suffolk ſide, as it was one of the four churches appendant on St. Mary's, and was given by Arfaſt to his ſon.

St.

St. Margaret's ſtood on the Suffolk ſide, as appears from a will of Simon le Goos, in 1533. It was one of the four churches appendant to St. Mary's, in the Confeſſor's time, and remained ſo in the Conqueror's. Blomefield ſeems to doubt whether it was given by the biſhop's ſon, or purchaſed by the biſhop of Ely. But as it is acknowledged, that after the erection of that biſhopric it belonged to that ſee, moſt probably it was given by the biſhop's ſon. In the beginning of Richard III. the pariſh church was quite dilapidated, and converted into an hoſpital for lepers, to whoſe uſe the church was aſſigned. The hoſpital was diſſolved, and granted to Richard Fulmerſton, ſold by ſir Edward Clere, and paſſed with the canon's farm. It ſtood on the left hand of the Elden road, cloſe by the city ditch.

St. Michael's ſtood on the Suffolk ſide, and was demoliſhed before the Reformation. The ſcite belonged to ſir Richard Fulmerſton, and was ſold by ſir Edward Clere with the canon's farm, in which it is now included.

St. Mary the Leſs is the only pariſh church now ſtanding on the Suffolk ſide. It was appropriated by Roger Bigot to the monks, and paſſed from them, on the duke of Norfolk's attainder, to the crown. Edward VI. granted it to Edward duke of Somerſet, who ſold it to ſir Richard Fulmerſton, upon whoſe death the right of donation went with his heireſs to ſir Edward Clere, who ſold it to the duke of Norfolk, in whoſe hands it has remained ever ſince. The Rev. Thomas Shelford, rector of North Tuddenham, is preſent incumbent; and in right of that, maſter of the ſchool, and hoſpital.

St.

St. Nicholas's church ſtood on the Norfolk ſide of the town, by the way which leads from St. Peter's to the abbey, where the ruined tower ſtill remains, on the left hand ſide of the ſtreet, called St. Nicholas-ſtreet. Hugh Bigot gave it to his foundation here. It was parcel of the poſſeſſions of the duke of Norfolk, and paſſed, as the former, to Richard Fulmerſton, eſq. and ſir Edward Clere; and from them to the Howard family, and is at preſent included in the abbey farm. The church-yard now remains as glebe to the rectory of St. Peter's.

St. Laurence.—The true ſcite of this church is unknown; but by the will of Simon le Goos, was fixed on the Norfolk ſide, near Earls-lane. It was given to the canons by their founder, and afterwards to ſir Richard Fulmerſton, and ſold by ſir Edward Clere with the canon's farm, to which it now belongs.

St. Etheldred, or *St. Audry.*—This church was on the Suffolk ſide of the burgh, and in the preſentation of the biſhop of Ely. The church was pulled down at the diſſolution of monaſteries, and the pariſh joined to St. Mary's. The ſcite retains the name of St. Audry's church-yard, and is cloſe on the right hand, leading from St. Mary's-cloſe, to the place over againſt the houſe, at the corner of the paſſage leading down to the paper-mills, and has been turned into paſture lands many years.

St. Edmund's.—The traces of it are now loſt, but moſt probably it ſtood on the Suffolk ſide, and was demoliſhed at the Reformation.

St. Giles's ſtood on the left hand, leading from St. Peter's to St. Cuthbert's, facing St. Giles's-lane. It was appropriated to the canons. After various revolutions;

tions the inſide was uſed for a barn, and the yard, with the addition of a pent-houſe, leaſed to the landlord of the Bell for a dog-kennel. It is now a wheelwright's ſhop, in the poſſeſſion of Mr. John Shening, who has built a neat tenement adjoining to it. At the diſſolution it was granted to Richard Fulmerſton, and afterwards ſold by ſir Edmund Clere.

St. Andrew's ſtood on the Norfolk ſide; at the diſſolution it was united to St. Peter's; the church was then demoliſhed. Sir Richard Fulmerſton purchaſed it of the king in the 32d of Henry VIII. About 1717 the church-yard was converted into a pleaſant wilderneſs by the late Mr. Cockſege, who likewiſe made a handſome opening in the front of his houſe acroſs the ſtreet, filled it with flowering ſhrubs, and added an iron gate and palliſades, which are an ornament to that part of the town. It has ſince been rented of the rector of St. Peter's at 7s. 6d. a year.

St. Cuthbert's is one of the three churches now ſtanding on the Norfolk ſide, near the croſs, called St. Cuthbert's Croſs, but in ancient evidences the Graſs-market, it being the place where they ſold herbs and garden ſtuff. It was given by king Stephen to William de Warren, earl Warren and Surry, who gave it to the canons. At the diſſolution the great tithes paſſed to ſir Richard Fulmerſton, and was ſold by ſir Edward Clere to the Duke of Norfolk, and have remained in the family of the Howard's ever ſince. The chapel of St. Cuthbert is joined to the ſouth ſide of the chancel. The Rev. Charles Henry Manning, M. B. is the preſent incumbent.

Trinity Church was appropriated by earl Warren to the canons, and ſerved by one of them at the time of its diſſolution; ſir Richard Fulmerſton purchaſed

chaſed it, and in the 2d of Edward VI. conſented to have it united to St. Cuthbert's. The foundation, and two pieces of the ſteeple, were lately viſible in the cloſe belonging to the maſter of the free-ſchool; it ſtood on the Suffolk ſide, and joined to the ſouth ſide of the cathedral church-yard, and it is conjectured to have been founded by Arfaſt, biſhop of Thetford, and Roger Bigot, the church of St. Mary, as obſerved, being taken from the pariſh, and made an epiſcopal ſee.

All Saints ſtood on the Suffolk ſide, and was granted by the abbot of Bury to the nuns of St. George; at the diſſolution it was granted to Richard Fulmerſton, eſq. and paſſed with his other lands to the preſent poſſeſſor.

St. George's belonged to the abbot of Bury till it was given to the monks of St. George, who being reduced to great poverty, received this as a benefaction from him. The foundation of it, ſays Blomefield, p. 93, may be ſeen within the outward gate of the Place Farm, which is in part walled up on the right hand at the entrance; it was granted at the diſſolution to ſir Richard Fulmerſton, and paſſed with the place, and is included under that farm; it is mentioned in Doomſday-book to have been given by king Canute, near which the abbot of Bury placed a cell for a few monks; it continued parochial till the erection of the priory by abbot Hugh, and then became the nuns church.

St. Helen's in the time of the Confeſſor was given to the monks of Lewes; it ſtood on a hill two miles out of the town, on the road to Santon. At the time of William the Conqueror it belonged to the king's

manor of Methwold; it afterwards belonged to earl Warren, and paſſed with Methwold manor. It was built on account of a ſpring near, called St. Helen's, or Holy-well.

St. Mary Magdalen's was a pariſh church before it was converted into a hoſpital by John earl Warren, and was confirmed to the monks of Lewes by the biſhop of Norwich.

St. Bennet's ſtood on the Suffolk ſide; the traces thereof are entirely loſt.—*Of the Chapel of the Virgin Mary hereafter.*

The awful ruins of ſo many conſecrated temples, where the honor of the King of Kings hath more immediately dwelt, demand our veneration, and are ſo many proofs of the great zeal, as well as importance of this once famous city; but our reflection becomes painful, when it calls to our mind, that ſo many temples of the moſt high have, through the lukewarmneſs, or impiety of our fore-fathers, moulded into duſt in one city, and become now ſtanding monuments of the abatement of modern zeal, for the preſervation of thoſe ſacred rights which once pronounced this city more renowned for churches and religious houſes, than any one ſpot of equal ſize throughout the whole iſland.

HOSPITALS.

St. Mary's Hoſpital. It was founded by John de Warren, earl of Surry, who procured the church and chapel of St. Mary Magdalen to be annexed to it, from which it took its name; it ſtood at ſome diſtance from the town, near the road to Norwich. Thomas earl of Lancaſter died ſeiſed of it in 1360, May 17, in

in the 3d of Edward VI. (when it was diſſolved); it was granted by Letters patent to ſir William Termour, to hold as of the king's Duchy of Lancaſter. On the 28th of September, in the 3d of Edward VI. ſir William releaſed all the premiſſes to ſir Richard Fulmerſton, and his heirs, from whom it paſſed with his other lands to the Norfolk family, and is included in the manors. It ſtood out of the town, on that piece of land lying at the diviſion of the road leading from the Fleece to Norwich, where the Kilverſton road ſtrikes off to the right hand, it being ſome diſtance beyond the preſent lime-kilns; it is ſtill called in evidences Mawdlin-acre. Right before it, at the conjunction of the three roads, ſtood Magdalen-croſs, at which Shropham hundred court was ſometimes kept after it was granted to the crown.

St. John Baptiſt's Hoſpital is ſuppoſed to have been founded by Roger Bigot, and to have ſtood at the corner of Earl's, or Alice's-lane, againſt St. Cuthbert's Croſs, its church being in the orchard belonging to that houſe; the dove-houſe there ſhews as if it was fixed on part of its round ſteeple; it was a houſe of lepers, and as the town increaſed that way, it is ſuppoſed John earl Warren removed it to Magdalen hoſpital.

The Hoſpital of the Virgin Mary and St. Julian, commonly called St. Julian's chapel, was founded in the time of Henry I. moſt likely by that prince; for the advowſon of it paſſed with the lordſhip to earl Warren, who always preſented to it. The hoſpital-houſe ſtood at the bridge-foot; the chapel, which was dedicated to St. Julian, and ſtood in the yard, is quite demoliſhed, ſo that its exact ſcite is not known; it was called St. Julian's Hermitage at the Bridge.

Domus Dei, Maiſon de Dieu, ſtood on the Suffolk ſide, at the very corner of the Canon's-cloſe; the river waſhed its walls on the north, and the eaſt ſide fronted the ſtreet: it was a very ancient houſe, and is thought to have been founded by William Rufus; the patronage was in earl Warren. John earl Warren granted it, by his charter, to the prior and canons of Thetford, to find two chaplains to ſing for the ſoul of the firſt founder of the Houſe of God; alſo to find ſuſtenance and entertainment for three poor men, during a certain portion of the year, who were to act in all things according to the eſtabliſhment of the houſe, in the 22d of Edward III. Henry earl of Lancaſter, Derby, and Leiceſter, ſteward of England, granted to the priory of the canons of Thetford all the lands, &c. late belonging to the hoſpital of God's Houſe, except the ſcite thereof, (which he granted to the friars preachers), the prior, canons, and their ſucceſſors, to find for ever one houſe for the entertainment of three poor people, from the feaſt of the tranſlation of St. Edward until the feaſt of St. Theodoret, forty weeks; every night was to be given them a loaf of rye, which was to be good, of the weight of two-and-fifty ſhillings ſterling, and one herring, or two eggs inſtead of the herring, (if the herring could not be eaſily procured) all which amounts yearly, the bread to ſeventeen quarters of corn, and the herrings to three thouſand and forty; they were likewiſe to provide three beds, and water for waſhing their feet.

We cannot paſs by this moſt humane and benevolent inſtitution without ſome degree of emotion at the reflection, that the want of the zeal of modern times has almoſt worn out the very remembrance of it. From this ſhort ſketch of thoſe primitive times, when religion and charity walked hand in hand,

hand. as ſiſters, through this happy iſland, we cannot but beſtow a ſigh on the loſs of ſuch in our country towns, and lament that the metropolis has viſibly engroſſed almoſt the charity of the whole nation. The truly generous mind muſt be deeply affected with the total abolition of theſe uſeful charities, rather than a timely reformation of them, according to the wiſdom of their founders, whoſe benevolence and œconomy were equally inſtructive. We have ſeemingly been humbled by variety of trials for theſe unnatural pretended reformations; the great increaſe of our poor in our times has almoſt deadened the hand of charity, and preſented us with a melancholy memento of what uſe even ſuch a mite of charity would now be in one of our populous country towns! What a ſeaſonable relief it would afford to modeſt penury, and unſucceſsful induſtry? We cannot but admire the anxious care of the truly pious founder of this little charity, who provided only for three poor travellers, yet was as circumſpect and minute in his computations and rules, as if he had been providing for the welfare of thouſands. The reader is left to judge of the propriety of totally aboliſhing theſe uſeful and extenſive charities, (which, as if conſcious of their one day becoming the prey of boundleſs avarice, they uſually conſecrated to pious uſes, with the bittereſt imprecations againſt thoſe who ſhould deſecrate them). If charity in its literal ſenſe is underſtood to cover a multitude of ſins, whence could the nation hope for a more general and rational fund of forgiveneſs, thereby giving freſh vigour to the charitable inſtitutions by a reformation, than by a total abolition of them, and thereby keeping up the only form, inſtead of power of charity, and extinguiſhing, as it were, the very name of it.

Let us then, as true Chriſtians, extend our view upon this moſt intereſting ſubject. What benefit has accrued to the nation from this havoc and deſtruction amongſt religious inſtitutions? a few rapacious ſycophants have indeed grown fat upon the ſpoils of them, while the cries of the poor ſtill inceſſantly call aloud through the want of them. But, as the learned and pious ſir Henry Spelman (ſee his Hiſtory of Sacrilege, p. 243) ſays, about 1615, or 1616, he marked with his compaſſes a circle of twelve miles, including twenty-four families, whoſe progenitors had ſoiled their hands with the ſpoils of religious houſes, and found that theſe monaſteries had flung out their owners, with the names and families, (all of them twice, or thrice, at leaſt, and ſome of them four, five, or ſix times, not only by failure of iſſue, or ordinary ſale, but very often by grievous accidents and misfortunes) and particularly mentions the black nuns of St. Gregory's, or St. George's, as one in the family of Clarke's, (inſtead of Clere's, p. 277). Hence, at this day, we lament the increaſe of our poor, though our legiſlature, to their honour, have made ample proviſion for them; ſince, at this day, ſome of our populous towns would rejoice in the benefit of ſo ſmall a charity as this. That we may conſider it in its true light, the reader is deſired to reflect, that from this infant charity alone proviſion would have ariſen, ſince its foundation, for no leſs than 1299 perſons for forty weeks in every year; and as, in round numbers, there are computed to be 8000 pariſhes within this kingdom, ſuppoſing no more than one of this ſmall ſize in each, no leſs than 10,392,000 perſons would have had a comfortable proviſion for forty weeks in each year ſince the foundation.

Of St. Mary's College, in Bailey-end.—There was only one college in this town, dedicated to the honor of

of the Bleſſed Virgin, which was firſt a guild only; at this time, and even to the end, it was ſometimes called the guild of St. Mary at Bailey-end. At its diſſolution the chapel and college were entirely demoliſhed, and the revenues came to the king, who granted the ſcite and chapel, called Chapel-yard, and eighty acres of land, to the duke of Norfolk, and by him were forfeited to the crown; they were ſoon after granted to Richard Fulmerſton, eſq. and his heirs, who ſold that and the *Maiſon de Dieu* to Nicholas Hood, ſince which time it hath been private property. It ſtood near the river, directly behind the common gaol for the borough; there are now no ruins of any account. It is now the property of Mrs. Bidwell, widow of the late Mr. alderman Bidwell.

Of the Friaries.—There were two friaries in this burgh, called in ancient evidences, the friars of the Old, and New Houſe.

The friars of the Old Houſe were Dominicans, or black friars; their ſituation was on the Suffolk ſide, in the Canon's Cloſe, as it is now called. It was firſt the pariſh church of St. Mary the Great, but by biſhop Arfaſt was made a cathedral of his ſee; and when it was tranſlated to Norwich, Roger Bigot, who had purchaſed the church of St. Mary, by way of exchange, of Richard, ſon of biſhop Arfaſt, (whoſe inheritance it was) placed Cluniack monks in it, and erected a timber building for their reception; but, upon finding they were incommoded by the too near approach of the burgeſſes houſes, removed it to the Norfolk ſide, in a pleaſant place without the city, where he began a cloiſter of ſtone, the area of which is now viſible between the church and the river. It was ſurrendered to king Henry VIII. and was granted

to ſir Richard Fulmerſton, by the name of the Scite of the Friars Preachers, formerly called the Hoſpital Houſe of God in Thetford; he left it to his heireſs; it deſcended to ſir Edward Clere, who ſold it with the Canon's Farm, to which it now belongs.

Of the Auguſtine, or Auſtin Friars.—Mendicants, or begging friars of the New Houſe, were inſtituted at Thetford about 1381, by John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaſter: he built them a church, convent, and cloiſter, on its ſouth ſide, on part of the old intrenchments of the Caſtle-hill; it was turned into an houſe of lepers, governed by one of their brethren. In the 27th of Henry VIII. it was ſurrendered into the king's hands, and afterwards granted to ſir Richard Fulmerſton, and paſſed as the reſt of his lands. This ſtood on the Norfolk ſide, by the Market-ſtreet, in the incloſure called the Friars Cloſe.

Of the Nunnery.—This monaſtery was the oldeſt of any in the town; it was founded by Uvius, the firſt abbot of Bury, in the time of Canute, in memory of the Engliſh and Danes that were ſlain not far off, in the great battle between Ingwar and Ubba; it was ſituated juſt by the church of St. George, which Canute had given to his abbey at Bury, but upon the land that earl Turkil gave to that monaſtery. In this houſe the abbot placed a few canons, or monks, who held it as a cell, and officiated in the church of St. George, which was then a pariſh church: from this time the canons continued here, till at laſt they were reduced to two, and the revenues being almoſt diſſipated, they requeſted Hugh abbot of Bury, their patron, that the nuns, who till then lived by the chapel of St. Edmund at Lynn, in Norfolk, might be removed hither. In 1176 the two canons reſigned, and the nuns took poſſeſſion. Hugh by this means became their founder,

founder, and gave them the church of St. George, which he rebuilt, and from a parochial made it their conventual church: he gave them the parishes of St. Benedict and All Saints, with all the other lands the abbots of Bury had in the burgh of Thetford, by means whereof this monastery, with all the lands and revenues, were totally exempt from all jurisdiction of the burgh, and enjoyed the liberties and privileges of St. Edmund, their patron, even to the dissolution. In process of time, (which is the fate of all sublunary things) the nuns seem to have failed in their revenues; for it appears from a curious M. S. in the possession of the right honourable the earl of Cornwallis, intitled the Consuetudinary of the Abbey of Bury, wrote about 1265, that the abbot then granted them weekly thirty-five loaves of bread. At the dissolution the king leased the scite and possessions of it to Richard Fulmerston, esq. and in 1540 he had an absolute grant of it, to be held in capite, by knight's service. The old house is now totally abolished, and a new one erected on the spot, and corresponds with a gate in the wall of the garden, now a square field. It is now in the possession of John Buxton, esq. of Shadwell, in Norfolk.

The Priory, or Abbey.—This monastery was first founded on the Suffolk side of the river by Roger Bigot, in the cathedral church-yard, and afterwards removed to another place. In the year 1104 Cluniack monks were introduced into this house by Roger Bigot, who having passed through variety of business in a public character, (too frequently the case when a multiplicity of temporal concerns banishes from the mind all regard to spiritual) he fell under some painful reflections that he had failed in the performance of his duty, and as the enthusiastic zeal of those times atoned for every omission by a pilgrimage

to

to Jeruſalem, he reſolved upon one; his ſteward, Ethbran, a man well ſpoken of in hiſtory, ſeconded by the advice of his friends, he being well reſpected himſelf, judiciouſly ſuggeſted to him, that by ſo doing he muſt inevitably be baniſhed his native country and friends, and undertake a voyage attended with great hazard and danger, and that a means might be uſed equally effectual at home, which was, to lay out the ſum ſuch a fruitleſs voyage would coſt him in erecting ſome charitable inſtitution, whereby he would daily enjoy the ſight of his good works, and ſecure to himſelf an intereſt in the prayers of a fraternity whoſe conſtant employment it would be to offer up to Heaven the moſt ardent prayers, both for him and his lateſt poſterity, till time ſhould be no more. Ethbran had no ſooner communicated this well concerted plan to his maſter, than, ſtruck with the propriety of it, he ſolicited and obtained the king's leave, and began to build cells for the monks round the church of the Bleſſed Virgin Mary, which he procured, with all its appendanges, in exchange with Richard, ſon of biſhop Arfaſt, whoſe inheritance it was, and an ancient epiſcopal ſee. This exchange was confirmed by Henry; but as all human inſtitutions, in their infancy eſpecially, are very imperfect, it was ſoon diſcovered the place he had fixed upon was too circumſcribed, by the near approach of the burgeſſes houſes; Bigot, therefore, made application to William de Albini, one of the king's council, to remove the monaſtery out of the town into a more ſpacious place; accordingly it was removed to that ſpot which now bears the name of the place, from the Canon's Cloſe, as it is now called, having been the place of the firſt pariſh church, St. Mary the Great, and made by biſhop Arfaſt the cathedral of his ſee. When that was tranſlated to Norwich, Roger Bigot purchaſed the church of St. Mary, and placed

placed Cluniack monks here, and erected a timber building for their reception, which he ſoon after changed to a cloiſter of ſtone, the area of which is now viſible between the church and the river, and the walls of the refectory, which was on the north ſide of the court, are in part now ſtanding. In 1370 they had purchaſed all the houſes between their convent and the ſtreet; their monaſtery now became ſpacious and open, nothing being between the ſtreet, the cloiſter, and the old hoſpital of Domus Dei, which ſtood at the corner by the river. This houſe being alien, on account of the mark annually paid to the abbot of Cluni, was ſeized with the reſt of the alien priories into the hands of the king, and leaſed by him to the duke of Norfolk. The duke prevailed upon Edward III. to enfranchiſe it in 1375. It was totally ſuppreſſed in 1540, and reſigned again into the king's hands, who re-granted it to the duke of Norfolk. The priors were always ſummoned to convocation. The revenues of this houſe were very large, as were the ruins; the prior's apartment, which was at the weſt end of the cloiſter, was ſtanding till 1737, when the roof was in part pulled off: right againſt it, at a good diſtance, cloſe by the road, ſtands the abbey gate, it is built of free ſtone and black flint, and makes an handſome appearance; it was a large church, the tower, according to the conventual form, being between the nave and the choir, and the cloiſter on the ſouth ſide. There are no arms remaining, the laſt was on a ſupporter of the arched roof of the choir, on the north ſide of the altar, which, with a fine head of Roger Bigot, carved in ſtone, is in the poſſeſſion of the Rev. George Burton, rector of Elveden, in Suffolk. The abbey is in poſſeſſion of lord Petre.

The Canons of St. Sepulchre.—This order was eſtabliſhed in 1109, and were ſettled here by William the third earl Warren and Surry, in the reign of Stephen, who gave him certain lands for that purpoſe, at the weſt end of the town, on the Suffolk ſide, and their monaſtery was dedicated to the Holy Sepulchre. for monks Auguſtine. He gave them a fair twice in a year. on the Invention of the Holy Croſs, and the Exaltation of the ſame. Since the ſurvey, in 1338, the canons had acquired poſſeſſion of more than eleven hundred acres of land, which at the loweſt computation (according as land was valued at that time) muſt have been worth 20l. a year; according to which computation this monaſtery, at the ſuppreſſion, was endowed with 821. 6s. a year, beſides additional advowſons and tithes.

The School and Hoſpital.—That there was a ſchool in this town very early, appears from the biſhop's regiſtry, wherein John de Morton was admitted maſter by the biſhop in 1329; as no admiſſions occur later, moſt probably theſe collations ſunk at the diſſolution. In 1566 ſir Richard Fulmerſton, in his will, ordered a preacher to be found for ever, to preach the word of God within the pariſh church of St. Mary, four times in every year, and to have for his labour, for every ſermon, 10s. He gave and bequeathed to his executors, and their heirs, all thoſe pieces of ground and paſture, called the Trinity church-yard, and Black Friar's yard, in Thetford; as alſo three tenements in the pariſh of St. Mary, to eſtabliſh a free grammar-ſchool within Thetford for ever, in a houſe to be built for that purpoſe, in the Trinity church-yard, or Black Friar's-yard, as moſt convenient; and that of the three tenements they make a houſe and chamber for the ſchool-maſter and uſher, and their ſucceſſors for ever, and an habitation

tion for four poor people, two whereof to be men, the remaining two women; for the better maintenance of which preacher, ſchool, and poor people, his will was, that manors, land, and tenements, to the amount of 35l. a year, beſides the ſaid yards and tenements aforeſaid, ſhould be ſettled, and that they ſhould be ſubject to ſuch rules as he himſelf ſhould order and direct, or his executors; but after the death of the teſtator the worldly-minded heirs neglected the execution of this truſt, upon which the magiſtrates of the town, with a proper ſpirit, and from moſt laudable motives, expended an hundred pounds to apply the lands to their right uſe; and the townſmen petitioned James I. to enact, and it was enacted by authority of Parliament, that there ſhould be for ever a preacher, free-grammar ſchool, and an hoſpital; that the preacher, ſcool-maſter, uſher, and poor people, ſhould be a body politic, in name and deed, and that the preacher ſhould be maſter both of the ſchool and hoſpital; that the ſchool-maſter, uſher, and poor people, ſhould be fellows; that the ſaid body politic ſhould be called and known by the name of maſter and fellows of the ſchool and hoſpital of Thetford, founded by king James, according to the laſt will of ſir Richard Fulmerſton, knt. and by that name may ſue and implead, and be ſued and impleaded, &c. that the maſter and fellows ſhould have a common ſeal, with the arms of Richard Fulmerſton engraved thereon, and that the mayor, burgeſſes, and commonalty, ſhall be for ever governors and overſeers of the maſter and fellows, and ſhall have the placing and diſplacing them, as cauſe ſhall require. In purſuance of this act, the maſter, uſher, and poor, had houſes built for them. The maſter and uſher's houſe is joined to the north end of the ſchool, and ſtands upon the ruins of the Trinity church.

The

The ſchool at firſt flouriſhed, and acquired great reputation by the many gentlemen's ſons educated therein, and continued to do ſo for a long time. For ſome years paſt it has undergone a viſible declenſion, but the qualifications, and diſpoſition of the preſent maſter, promiſe a fair proſpect of recovering its former ſplendor; and it is hoped the neighbouring gentlemen will lend an helping hand towards effecting this deſirable end.

The preſent maſter is the Rev. Henry Charles Manning, M. B. The uſher, Mr. Thomas Pooley.

Of the Corporation.—Mr. Blomefield concludes here hath been a burgh ever ſince the time of the Romans, and that the inhabitants were governed by a regular ſucceſſion of kings, provoſts, &c. from the conqueſt, which office expired in the time of Richard I. who changed its government from a provoſt to a bailiff, coroner, and mayor, the bailiff for a time being the ſuperior officer (during the time, I ſuppoſe, he was appointed by the king in perſon, as lord of the dominion, or manor of Thetford). Both the mayor, and the coroner, then held their places for life, and till 1373, when John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaſter, obliged the town ſo far as to make the mayor ſuperior to the coroner, but ſtill kept the nomination of the coroner to himſelf. This office was alſo for life, till 1490, then king Henry VII. as duke of Lancaſter, and lord of this manor, obliged the town in making the old mayor the coroner for next year, which cuſtom continues to this day. In the reign of Edward I. the mayor and commonalty had licence to purchaſe lands to the value of 10l. to remain to them and their ſucceſſors for ever, notwithſtanding the ſtatute of Mortmain, which they deemed a valuable privilege.

During

During the reign of Henry VII. no material alteration was made in their privileges, except that power was granted to the mayor, that none ſhould ſerve the office of coroner but one who had been mayor. It was likewiſe granted to the mayor to have a ſword carried before him, whenever he went upon public buſineſs. The mayor was ſworn into his office by the under-ſteward of the Duchy of Lancaſter in 1470, after which he rode to Broomhill fair, to receive the toll, ſtallage, and picage of the fair.

In the 24th of Henry VIII. the king granted that the ſword, and two maces, ſhould be carried before the mayor, and as there were but eight burgeſſes, the king by his letters patent augmented them to ten.

In queen Mary's reign the inconveniences from not being a free burgh increaſed, and they prayed for relief, but without ſucceſs, till queen Elizabeth granted them their wiſhed-for charter, whereby the mayor, burgeſſes, (now called aldermen) and 20 commonalty (now called 20 common council men) made one body politic; the limits and juriſdiction of the ſaid borough, for ever, to remain the ſame as they have been time immemorial. That they may make perambulations for the knowledge of their limits as often as they judge proper; may plead, and be impleaded; proſecute, and be proſecuted; or plead their charter in any court whatever. That they may have a common ſeal, which they may break, or alter at their pleaſure. That ten of the moſt diſcreet, and honeſt men of the burgh, may be aſſiſtant to the mayor, in all cauſes reſpecting the burgh; in making ſtatutes, and ordinances, for the benefit of it, and the inhabitants thereof, (who ſhall be called principal burgeſſes) and they ſhall be the common council of the borough, and to be kept by them, or the major part of them, and the

mayor

mayor for the time being, that they may be better able to govern and regulate perſons within the ſame. That twenty other men, reſident inhabitants, of diſcreet and honeſt character, ſhall conſtitute the whole number of the commonalty, and be under the ten burgeſſes; and when any of them happen to die, or from the commonalty, for reaſonable cauſes, to be removed, that then, and from thence, it ſhall and may be lawful, for the mayor and recorder, or his ſufficient deputy, and the coroner for the time being, for the fulfilling of the number of twenty commoners, to elect out of the inhabitants of the borough another diſcreet and honeſt man, and admit him according to their diſcretion, &c.—The ſum and ſubſtance of the charter may be read at large in Blomefield, p. 168; or Worth's Hiſtory of Thetford, p 238.

In the time of Henry VIII. there were three leets belonging to this town, viz. Hundred leet, in right of the Hundred of Shropham; Eaſt leet, and St. Thomas's leet, in right of the Duchy of Lancaſter; all which were granted to the corporation, impowering them to keep two leets in a year, paying to the crown an annual rent of 13s. 4d. for the Hundred leet, (which rent was reſerved to the crown when Shropham hundred was granted from it) though the juriſdiction of the hundred extends over the Norfolk ſide of the town at this time, as is evident from the leet only, and its annual rent being excepted, and from the hundred courts formerly kept at Maudlin Croſs. In 1693 there was a warrant directed by the ſheriff of the county to the bailiff of the hundred of Shropham, commanding him to levy 13s. 4d. upon the mayor, burgeſſes, and commonalty of Thetford, due to the Exchequer for the annual farm of the leet, or view of frankpledge, of all the inhabitants of the burgh. This town is always reckoned as part of

Shropham

Shropham hundred, and has been, ever ſince the time of Edward III. in all taxations, and uſed to raiſe the trained bands, as in the hundred; and before 1664 they paid all duties, king's taxes, &c. as one body to Norfolk, the greater part of the burgh being in that county; but ſince, the one part is taxed as in Lackford hundred, in Suffolk, and the other as in Shropham hundred, in Norfolk.

It was a burgh by preſcription only, till the firſt royal charter which was granted to this town, by queen Elizabeth, and bears date at Gorambury, March 12, 1573. This was in force till January 30, in the 34th of Charles II. and was then ſurrendered to the king, who granted them a new one, with ſome alterations, dated at Weſtminſter, March 6, in the ſame year; but this did not continue long, for there was another granted, exactly like that of queen Elizabeth, by which they are now governed.

THE PRESENT CORPORATION.

Richard Saffery, eſq. Mayor,

The moſt noble Auguſtus Henry duke of Graſton, Recorder,

William Holmes, eſq. Coroner,

Mr. James Cole, Town-Clerk, and Deputy-Recorder.

ALDERMEN.

Mr. George Clarke
Hon. Charles Fitzroy
Mr. Thomas Garnham
Mr. Thomas Arnold
Mr. Henry Thompſon
Mr. John Rolfe
Mr. William Holmes.
Three vacant.

COMMON COUNCIL.

Mr. Richard Newberry	Mr. John Harvey
Edmond Nourſe	Robert Manby
Thomas Lackford	James Parker
Robert Dade	John Spendlove
Peter Salmon	Edmund Clarke
Matthew Betts	John Tyrrel
Peter Sterne	William Robards
John Sherring	John Theodorick
Noah Baker	William Mingay

Two vacant.

Of the Liberties of this Borough, in the reign of Edward the Third.

There was a return of writs, and gaol delivery, by the king's writ, ſo early as the time of Edward I. in 1290; alſo a mayor, and coroner, as at preſent. The burgeſſes anſwered for themſelves before the juſtices every where, without joining any foreigners to them in recognizances, or juries. No ſheriff, coroner, bailiff, or other officer, not of the borough, was allowed to exerciſe his office, or make any executions within the ſaid borough, or its boundaries, but only the bailiffs of the borough; nor to exerciſe any power over the fiſheries of the borough, which extend from the town to St. Edmond's-bridge, towards Santon. The mayor, and his bailiffs, by the conſent of the commonalty, or the major part of the ſame, had power to levy and make reaſonable ſeizures for the ſecurity and benefit of the borough, as other boroughs did in like caſes. The burgeſſes were exempted from any kind of toll throughout the whole kingdom of England. No perſon of, or in the ſaid borough, could be indicted

dicted, or arreſted, for any debt, or cauſe whatſoever, or be confined in any priſon, but that belonging to the borough; but all who are indicted, or arreſted, and confined in the priſon of the ſaid borough, are to be ſo arreſted by the bailiffs of the borough, and by them kept, who have the keeping of the ſame till they are releaſed, according to the law and cuſtom of the kingdom, and that by the burgeſſes of the ſaid borough. The burgeſſes may not plead, nor be impleaded, nor be ſummoned out of the ſaid borough for any offences or complaints ariſing within the ſaid borough, unleſs touching the king, or his heirs. Every one of the ſaid borough could, and can diſpoſe by will of all his lands and tenements within the limits of the ſaid borough, as well as his other chattels, which are moveable. Every one of the borough who can meaſure, and count twelve pence, ſhall be eſteemed of full age, as hath been hitherto; and all alienations made by ſuch have been, and are now conſidered as valid. No burgeſs of the ſaid borough ſhall be amerced for any cauſe, unleſs by his fellow burgeſſes of the ſaid borough, and then it muſt be done before the mayor, and according to the quantity of the offence.

The arms of this town are, a caſtle triple-towered, with demi-armed men *iſſuing out* at each end, holding, that on the right hand, a trumpet, the other, on the left hand, an eſcutcheon in his right, and a ſword in his left hand.

Amongſt the many benefactions to this town, ſir Joſeph Waneſon, and ſir Richard Fulmerſton, were the greateſt. The former built the court of common pleas, and grand jury chamber, adjoining to the old Guild-hall. The Guild-hall is a fine old building of black flint, and had under it a noble kitchen,

which is now turned into an handſome court for the trial of Crown cauſes; and as the ſeats are ſo conſtructed as to be removed at pleaſure, it is occaſionally made uſe of for concerts and aſſemblies. The common gaol and bridewell ſtands by the Market-place, on the Norfolk ſide; and ſome years ſince the corporation bought a houſe, &c. in Magdalen-ſtreet, which is now made into a workhouſe. They own alſo the croſs in the Market-place, and one part, as I am informed, of the butchery, and lord Petre the other. The alms-houſes erected by ſir Richard Fulmerſton, near St. Mary's church, are built of black flint, and free-ſtone. Harbord's *hoſpital*, at the north-weſt end of the town, was founded for ſix old men, who divide the ſurplus of 30l. per annum among them, after the expence of repairs is deducted. The term of this foundation being expired, was lately renewed, by the generous application of the duke of Grafton. The eſtate is held by Mr. Gold.

Thetford was honored with the reſidence of ſeveral kings; many charters granted to the priory here, and to Ramſey-abbey, &c. by Henry I. bear date here. When the manor came with the Duchy to the crown, the ancient ſeat of the earls Warren became the royal palace. It was the only one in Norfolk, and the keeper's ſalary was 40l. per annum. It was rebuilt about the reign of queen Elizabeth, and was given by king James I. to ſir Philip Wodehouſe, whoſe arms were lately remaining over the weſt ſide of the outer gate, but are now removed elſewhere. Over them was in capitals, *Trappee forte*, in alluſion to their proweſs at the battle of Agincourt. It was the ſeat of that family in the time of ſir John Wodehouſe, bart. late recorder of the borough, and was purchaſed of ſir Armine Wodehouſe by the late Thomas Wright, eſq. attorney at law. On his death it became the property

perty of Mrs. Ann Wright, his ſiſter, who ſold it to Mr. Cole, attorney at law, the preſent deputy-recorder, and town-clerk. The preſent members for this borough are, the honorable general Fitzroy, and Fitzroy Scudamore, eſq.

There was a mint in this town, from the reign of Edgar to that of Henry II. incluſive, but the accounts of it are too imperfect to reduce to any regularity. Many coins are extant, ſtruck at this mint, a plate of which may be ſeen in Mr. Worth's Hiſtory of Thetford, p. 278.

Natural Hiſtory.—Many echinites, or button fiſh, as they are called, are found at Thetford, and in the neighbourhood, as likewiſe cockle-ſhells, ſome of an extraordinary ſize. They are found at various depths, and are an inconteſtible proof of the univerſality of the deluge. A few years ago, in digging a marle-pit at Elveden, was found a perfect nautilus, with the lid, (the only one, it is thought, in the kingdom); it was preſented by the Rev. George Burton to the Britiſh Muſeum, where it is now depoſited. Nature, in its conſtruction, has ſhewn a wonderful inſtance of ſagacity, ſince it is of a circular ſhape, whoſe apex forms a compleat hinge, by dropping into a cavity in the lid, and by that means prevents its being waſhed away by the force of the ſea, when the fiſh opens its ſhell. This was found at leaſt twenty feet under the ſurface of the earth; variety of marine curioſities have been diſcovered in the blocks of chalk dug out of theſe pits. A workman of veracity aſſured the editor of theſe ſheets, that his man once cut out a lobſter out of one of them, but was ſo ſurprized at the ſight, that nothing but one claw was left intire. Many large pieces of chalk have been found in their ſeveral progreſſive ſtates towards that of hard flint;

in ſome parts the ſeveral degrees of transformation might be eaſily diſcerned, even from a ſmall ſpeck up to a large quantity of ſolid flint. Many different kinds of ſhells, particularly ſea ſhells, are found here, and it is to be wiſhed naturaliſts would be more obſervant than they commonly are, in theſe light ſoils, where thoſe natural productions are much better preſerved, than in an heavy ſoil. Such diſcoveries would furniſh the friends to religion with clearer proofs of the wonderful works of nature than the abſtruſe reaſonings of ſome philoſophers, and tend more to remove thoſe dark miſts of ſcepticiſm, which hurry too many into a diſbelief of the cleareſt, as well as moſt ſacred truths.

Upon the whole, we ſee, on this partial view of the ancient Sito-magus, of what conſequence this town has been—what awful mementos it preſents us with, that a deep ſenſe of religion makes cities to flouriſh, and even exalteth a nation. In this little metropolis of the heptarchy we read of nineteen churches, and about a dozen religious houſes; yet ſince, through a depravity of manners, dwindled into three ſmall churches, and a few charitable foundations. If this is the inevitable conſequence of a decay of religion, let the reader make the application, and by the help of individuals this happy iſland may again flouriſh, and recover its former ſplendor, and religion and charity may again walk hand in hand together, as foſter-ſiſters, and, inſtead of oppreſſing the poor, every village may again prove a comfortable aſylum to the ſons of affliction and poverty.

We are indebted to an ingenious and very learned gentleman in this neighbourhood for the hiſtory of Thetford, which, we think, for preciſion and method, is better calculated to pleaſe and inſtruct, than even the

the works of a Blomefield, or a Gough, whoſe *publications on this ſubject* are too prolix to engage the attention of any but thoſe who eſtimate authors *by their name*, and books *by their ſize*. We cannot, however, agree with this gentleman in one point: he laments the total abolition of theſe religious and charitable inſtitutions, which prevailed ſo much in this kingdom till the reign of Henry VIII. We are of opinion that the clergy and the poor are much better provided for than they were before the diſſolution; for, beſides the many noble and well endowed edifices, as hoſpitals, infirmaries, poor-houſes, charity-ſchools, lunatic, and lying-in houſes, erected in every part of England, we find that no leſs a ſum than 1,720,316l. 14s. 7d. is annually raiſed by the overſeers for the uſe of the poor in England and Wales: thus, inſtead of the families and heirs of eſtates being robbed of their property, by the gift, or will of perſons, whoſe zeal ſavoured more of ſuperſtition than of charity, the poor of this country are maintained by voluntary and equitable aſſeſſment. The act of mortmain, which paſſed May 10, 1736, ſecures property from the depredations of ſuch perſons, and, though mortuaries might be neceſſary in times leſs civilized, the benificed clergy have now little to wiſh for in that way.

Thetford is on the great poſt road between Norwich and London, twenty-nine miles from the former, and ſeventy-nine from the latter. From the poſt-office here mails and bye-bags are diſpatched to all parts of Norfolk and Suffolk; and a ſtage coach, or a diligence, paſſes through for London and Norwich every day, except Sunday.

The river Ouſe *Parva* is navigable here, and downwards to Lynn-Regis, &c. by which veſſels of

ſmall burthen can export or import the produce or manufactures of ſeveral counties. The river is alſo the boundary between Norfolk and Suffolk.

Thetford has a weekly market on Saturday, and annual fairs held May 14. Aug. 2. and Sept. 25. The Lent aſſizes for Norfolk are always held at the Guild-hall, and horſe-races are kept every year, in July. The principal inns are the Bell and the George. It is twelve miles from Bury St. Edmund's, nineteen from Newmarket, ſix from Brandon, ſixteen from Watton, and fifteen from Attleburgh.

WRETHAM, EAST, or GREAT WROTHAM, is ſo called becauſe it lies moſt eaſt of the three Wrothams, of all which Harold was lord in king Edward's time, and Ralph de Tony in the Conqueror's. Wretham, or Wrotham-Thorpe, had then two carucates; Wretham, or Weſt Wrotham, had three; and Wretham, or Eaſt Wrotham, had four; all of them were beruites to Nefton, and contained together four miles in length, four in breadth, and paid 20d. gelt.

This manor was given to Bec abbey, in Normandy, by that Ralph de Tony who held it at the ſurvey, from which time it enjoyed all the privileges belonging to that monaſtery. In the regiſter of the abbey the cuſtoms of the manor are entered, among which it appears, that the tenants were to pay ſcot and lot, by way of aid to the abbots when they came into England, or to their proctors, if the neceſſities of the abbey were very urgent; they could not ſell a horſe colt, nor an ox of their own bringing up, without their lord's leave, nor marry their daughters, nor go to live out of the manor, nor remove their chattels out of it without licence; they paid at every death the beſt beaſt for a heriot, or 32d. inſtead of it;

and

and if any one died inteſtate, all their chattels were at the lord's diſpoſal. When the harveſt work was finiſhed by the tenants, they were to have half an acre of barley, and a ram let looſe in the midſt of them, and if they catched him, he was their own to make merry with; but if he eſcaped from them, he was the lord's; which cuſtom is ſtill kept at Eton college, there being a ram every year let looſe among the ſcholars, on a certain day, to be run down by them, the original of which might come from the cuſtom of this manor. At this time William de Hockham held land, &c. at Rockland, and all that belonged to the church of Bec, and was part of this manor, as did other perſons of this abbey. In 1285 the abbot held it in free alms, as parcel of Tony's barony, and had view of frank-pledge, aſſize of bread and ale, a pillory, gallows, and waif, and thus it continued in the abbey, (unleſs when it was in the king's hands by reaſon of the French wars) till 1414, in the 2d of Henry V. when the Parliament at Leiceſter diſſolved the prior's aliens, and then it continued in the crown till Henry VI. ſettled it on his college of Eton, at the foundation, and confirmed it by his charter in 1444. In 1460 it was re-confirmed by Edward IV. it being parcel of the poſſeſſions of Okeburne priory, which was an alien, depending on Bec abbey, and at this time the provoſt, fellows, and ſcholars of Eton are lords.

The leet belongs to the manor, and liberty of keeping petit-ſeſſions along with it, by grant of Hugh earl of Suſſex, who releaſed it to the church of Bec, on condition that they ſhould treat his bailiffs and ſuiters to the hundred court every other year, in their manor of Eaſt Wretham, and afterwards, in 1237, the ſaid Hugh, for twelve marks, paid him by brother William de Gynevill, their general proctor in England,

England, releaſed to them the ſaid treat, on condition they paid to the bailiff of the hundred, yearly, 14d. every Michaelmas-day, and the ancient leet-fee of 3s. ſo that the lord of the hundred, though he is paramount here, yet hath no leet.

This manor hath liberty of a coroner, whoſe juriſdiction extends over the Wrethams, by grant of Henry VI. when he founded his colleges of King's and Eton.

The rectory is valued at 11l. 12s. 3d. ob. in the king's books, and pays 1l. 3s. 2d. 3q. yearly tenths.

The church is dedicated to St. Ethelbert, and the rector paid a penſion of 20s. a year out of it to the abbot of Bec, and 12d. for ſynodals. The abbot of Counchis' temporalities belonging to his manor of Weſt Wretham, in this town, were taxed at 9l. In the year 1603 there were eighty communicants, which number is much decreaſed; it paid 2l. 15s. to the tenths, and is now aſſeſſed at 340l. to the land-tax, there being about 150 inhabitants.

In 1394, Auguſt 27, the rector was preſented by the king, as belonging to the temporalities of Okebourne priory, which are now in his hands.

The provoſt of Eton college, who is now patron, has preſented to this church ſince Sept. 19, 1447; and in 1753 the Rev. Dunham Gaines had the rectory on the ſaid preſentation.

Upon the weſt end of the ſteeple was an old inſcription, beginning, *Orate pro, &c.* but ſo battered that it is illegible. A very large ſtone coffin was ploughed up in a cloſe in this town about 1715.

There

There are divers ſaints painted on the Screens, as St. Auguſtine, St. Ambroſe, &c.

In 1615 John Dowffyld, gent. gave 10l. by will, to the miniſter and church-wardens, to be employed for ever as town ſtock, to ſet the poor at work.

At Eaſt Wretham is the ſeat of William Colhoun, eſq.

WRETHAM, WEST, or NORTH WROTHAM, belonged to Ralph de Tony at the conqueſt, who was ſon of Roger de Tony, ſtandard-bearer of Normandy, and founder of the abbey of Counchis in that dukedom. This Ralph was ſtandard-bearer to the Conqueror in that memorable battle againſt king Harold, and by his eminent ſervice in it became a ſharer in thoſe large poſſeſſions which were after that ſignal conqueſt diſpoſed of to his friends and followers, and, among others, had nineteen lordſhips in Norfolk, theſe three being part of them, the biggeſt of which he gave to Bec abbey, and left the other two to Ralph, his ſon and heir, who left them at his death to Roger, his ſon and heir, who gave this manor and advowſon, with the mill, and moors, and whatever he held in the townſhip, to the monks of Counchis; they held them of his gift at his death, as belonging to their cell at Wotton-Waven, in Warwickſhire, which was in 1162.

In 1285 the abbot of Counchis had liberty of free-warren, free-fiſhing, view of frank-pledge, and aſſize of bread and ale allowed him; thus it continued in the abbot (except when the king held it on account of the French wars, when the temporalities of the alien priories were generally ſeized, that the revenues might not go to ſupport the king's enemies) till

till 1414, in the 2d of Henry V. and then the Parliament at Leiceſter diſſolved all the alien priories, and ſo it came to the crown, and was granted for life to ſir Rowland Lenthall, knt. and at his death it went with the priory of Wotton-Waven, and all its revenues, to Henry VI. who gave them to the provoſt and ſcholars of his college of St. Mary and St. Nicholas, in Cambridge, commonly called King's college, who are now lords and patrons. Henry II. granted the monks of Wotton licence to chooſe their own abbot, and that all their tenants in England ſhould be free from ſerving at ſheriff's turns, and hundred courts, and acquitted them of all tax, Danegelt, hildielt, and hundredſu, and alſo granted them all felons goods forfeited; by virtue of which this manor pleaded an exemption from doing ſuit to the hundred, but ſtill paid their leet-fee of 3s. a year to it, for themſelves and Wretham-Thorpe, of both which the lord of the hundred is paramount, but hath no power to compel the tenants to any ſervice.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 12l. 11s. 3d. and pays 1l. 5s. 1d. ob. yearly tenths.

The church is dedicated to St. Laurence, was taxed in the Lincoln taxation at fourteen marks, and paid 12d. ſynodals. In 1603 there were forty communicants, and there are now (Blomefield) about one hundred inhabitants; it paid 3l. 4s. to the tenths, and is aſſeſſed at 376l. to the land tax.

The provoſt of St. Mary's and St. Nicholas's college, at Cambridge, commonly called King's College, who is now patron, has preſented ſince Feb. 10, 1451.

In

An EMBOSMENT *of a Danish* SHIELD



To the Revd George Burton, Rector of Elden, Suffolk.

In 1754 the Rev. Dunham Gaines was preſented to this rectory.

In the chancel are inſcriptions to Samuel Wotton, doctor of divinity, and miniſter of both the Wrethams, who died Feb. 5, 1680, aged 80 years and 5 months.—Elizabeth, wife of Dr. Wotton, died Auguſt 1, aged 53.—Thomas Townſhend, gent. and Katherine Hoo, his wife; he died July 31, 1681.—Frances, wife of George Townſhend, gent. and daughter of Edmund Bacon, of Heſſet, eſq. died September, 1649.—William Powell, gent. deſcended from the Powells of Shropſhire, died Feb. 6, 1685.—John Powell, his ſon, rector of the Wrethams, died March 6, 1710.

A braſs plate fixed againſt the eaſt end of the north wall, with an inſcription to Catherine Coddington, wife of Nathaniel Coddington, rector of the two pariſhes, who died Oct. 11, 1716, aged 33.

Upon the ſouth chancel window may be ſeen a ſmall emblematical figure of a hare, riding on a greyhound, with a bow and quiver hanging at its back, and bugle horn by its ſide.

William Grigſon, eſq. reſides at his ſeat here.

This venerable piece of antiquity, which the annexed copper-plate repreſents, is undoubtedly of Daniſh extraction; the whole is of caſt braſs. From its appearance it ſeems to have been buried ever ſince the two Daniſh princes, Ingwar and Ubba, marched from Hunſtanton, through Attleburgh, to Thetford, A. D. 870. Moſt probably it was part of the emboſſment on a target of ſome commander in chief, for there are ſtill viſible at the end and back part of the

the ſword an hook, and in ſeveral places rivets, which have been broken off. The dreſs ſeems to correſpond with the uſual deſcription of the ancient Daniſh ſoldiers, who upon their heads wore burgenets, (or caps of net-work, as their princes did coronets); they had habergeons, or coats of mail over their bodies, and ſwords with gilt hilts belted round their waiſts, and a target with gilt boſſes on their left arm, part of which this appears to have been, though the lower part has been broken off by the rough treatment of the workman who dug it up in Wrethamfield, Norfolk, A. D. 1767.

The device ſeems to have been intended to perpetuate that ſtand king Edmond made againſt the Danes, till betrayed into the hands of his enemies by the treachery of one of his dependents; as ſuch, may it not have been the emboſſment on king Edmond's own target, or one of his generals? If this be admitted, it may be ſuppoſed to repreſent a captive Dane yielding up his ſword to the Conqueror, or a Daniſh chief kneeling in the act of dedication of his ſword to ſome heathen deity, and invoking his future aid in the uſe of it; and we are rather confirmed in this opinion, as we diſcern no traces of anxiety, or diſtreſs; but, on the contrary, evident marks of ſerenity, and even a gleam of hope in the countenance. Whatever the device may be, it is moſt certainly a valuable piece of antiquity, and as ſuch it is here offered to the conſideration of the public.

One remarkable inſtance of the antiquity of this piece, and the barbariſm of the times in which it was executed, muſt ſtrike the inſpector at firſt ſight, that the votary is graſping the blade of the drawn ſabre without the leaſt appearance of danger, or expreſſion of pain in his countenance.

WRETHAM-

WRETHAM-THORPE, or Little Wrotham, now called Thorpe-Houſe, there being only one farm remaining at this time; it never had any church, but was an hamlet to Weſt Wretham, which took the name of Little Wretham after this was joined to it: it was a ſeparate village at the conqueſt, and ſo continued till the latter end of Edward II. though the manor always was, and now is, diſtinct from the other Wrethams, by the name of Thorpe-Hall. It was held by the Tonys, who had all the three at firſt, and paſſed as Weſt Wretham did till that was given to the abbot of Counchis by Roger de Tony, the manor having then liberty of view of frank-pledge, aſſize of bread and ale, and waif. Robert de Tony died ſeiſed about 1310, leaving it to Alice, widow of Thomas Leybourne, his ſiſter and heireſs, who married Guy de Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, who ſoon after his marriage ſold the manor, with land, &c. in Stanford, held by the 10th part of a fee, to Thomas de Nethergate, chaplain of Stanford, to be held of the earl by the annual payment of a chaplet of roſes; and this Thomas gave the manor to the prior of Coxford, and his ſucceſſors, in 1315, reſerving the Stanford parts to himſelf. In 1343 it was ſettled by Peter de Weſton Taillur on ſir John de Norwich, knt. at which time it contained two carucates, for which John gave him one hundred marks. How it came from Coxford, whether by exchange, or no, we do not find. In 1374 it deſcended to Katherine de Brewſe, couſin and heireſs of ſir John Norwich, junior, who ſettled it on John Daventre, &c. for her life, and a year after her deceaſe; the remainder to the king and his heirs. In 1384 Richard II. gave the reverſion to the prioreſs and nuns of Dartford, in Kent, in which houſe it continued to the diſſolution; and in 1539 was granted to ſir Thomas Jermyn, knt. and his heirs, to be held in capite. It afterwards belonged

longed to George Townſhend, of Cranworth, who left it to his eldeſt ſon, Thomas, who lived at Weſt Wretham, where he was buried in 1681, leaving George Townſhend, of Wretham, gent. who married a grand-daughter of ſir Robert Baldock's, of Tacolneſton, by whom he had the Rev. Mr. Townſhend, rector of Shipdham; which of them it was that ſold the eſtate, I (Blomefield) cannot ſay, but am informed that it belongs to the heirs of ſir Nicholas Gerrard, bart. who died in 1727.

We meet with nothing more concerning theſe Wrethams, but that the great hundred court is to be annually kept at a place called Kettle-bridge, between Little Hockham, Illington, and Great Wretham, on the Tueſday after Michaelmas-day in the morning, where all the rents due to the hundred are to be paid, and proper warrants iſſued for all arrears.

In Fabian's Chronicle, (fol. 361) is this: *Aboute that ſeaſon* (1418) *the parſon of Wortham, in Norfolk, whych longe tyme had haunted New-market Heth, and there robbed and ſpoyled many of the king's ſubiects, was nowe, with his concubyne, brought into Newgete, where laſtly he died.*—And in a manuſcript, in the hands of the Rev. Mr. Baldwin, it is thus related: "In 1418 "the parſon of Wrotham, in Norfolk, which had "haunted Newmarket Heathe, and there robbed and "ſpoiled many, was, with his concubine, carried to "Newgate, of London, where he died."

It appears by the inſtitutions, that it could not be the parſon of Weſt Wretham, and (if any) muſt be the parſon of Eaſt Wretham; and it looks ſomething like it, there being no time of Swaniond's inſtitution mentioned, who was inſtituted at the death of this parſon; but whether it was de Lawe, or any other

that

that had it after him, and before Swanlond, we cannot pretend to determine.

WILBY, called in Doomsday-book WILGEBY, joins to Banham on the north, and had at the Conqueror's survey two manors; the head manor, which hath been since called by divers names, according to those of its different owners, and now WILBY-HALL MANOR, belonged to Fader in the Confessor's time, and to William de Schoies, or Escoies, (*i. e.* the Scot, or Will of Scotland, as he is sometimes called,) in the Conqueror's; it had a church then, and ten acres of glebe, the whole town being a mile long, and as much broad, and paid 15d. out of every 20s. taxed upon the hundred. The advowson belonged to this manor, and in the reign of William Rufus William de Escoies, or Schoies, by the name of William de Hestoies, gave the advowson of Wilby along with that of Banham, and a carucate of land there, together with two parts of the tithes of his demesnes in both places, to the abbey of St. Mary at York.

In 1226 Stephen de Ebroic was lord; he is sometimes called Ebrois, D'Ebrois, Deveres, and D'Evereux. In 1256 William Deveres was lord; he and Maud, his mother, sold it to sir Richard de Boyland in 1278, who had a charter of free-warren for all his lands here. This William Deveres pretended a right to the moiety of the advowson again the abbot of York, but was cast in the suit, and forced to release all his pretensions. In 1295 Richard de Boyland had it, and John, his son and heir, in 1314. In 1345 sir John Boyland, knt. of Boyland-Hall, in Brisingham, held it at three quarters of a fee, half of John Waleys, the other half of John Berdewell, who held it of the heirs of Hugh de Bokenham, they of the earl of Arundel, and he of the king. This part seems

to be the free-man and his ſervices, which was Roger Bigod's at the Conqueſt, afterwards the earl of Arundel's, then Hugh Bokenham's, lord of Weſt Harling, after that the Berdewell's, by whom it was ſold to the Boylands.

In 1363 ſir Thomas de Felton, knt. had it ſettled on him by ſir William Ingaldeſthorpe, knt. and Eleanor, his wife, it being conveyed to him during the life of Eleanor; great part of this manor was ſold by ſir John de Boyland. In 1372 ſir Thomas Felton, knight of the garter, was lord.

In 1470 ſir John Curſon, of Beck-hall, in Belaugh, knt. had this manor, it being then held of the earl of Arundel, as of Caſtle Acre manor. In 1565 William Curſon, eſq. ſold the manor to ſir Thomas Lovell, knt. In this family it continued till 1627, and then Charles Lovell, of Harling, eſq. ſold it to Edward Hobart, of Langley, eſq. in truſt. In 1631 Edward Hobart ſold to Charles Lovell, of Hockering, eſq. and Edward Barkeley, of the ſame, gent. the manors of Wilby; and in 1665 Charles Lovell, of Eaſt Harling, eſq. ſold it to Robert Wilton, of Wilby, eſq. and his heirs, and ſo it became joined to BECK-HALL MANOR, which was owned by Ailid in the Confeſſor's time, and by Ralph Bainard in the Conqueror's, under whom it was held by Solidarius; it was an exact half of the town, the other manor being of the ſame extent and value. In 1106 Jeffrey Bainard, his ſon and heir, had it, who was a great benefactor to St. Mary's abbey at York; he was ſucceeded by William Bainard, who taking part with Elias earl of Main, Philip de Braoſe, William Malet, and other conſpirators, againſt Henry I. loſt his barony, the chief ſeat of which was called Bainard's-Caſtle, ſituate below St. Paul's, near the Thames. Upon this forfeiture

feiture it was given by the king to Robert, a younger ſon to Richard Fitz-Gilbert, progenitor to the ancient earls of Clare, as this Robert was to the noble family of the Fitz-Walters, of whom it was always held of Bainard-Caſtle at half a fee; and in 1228 Robert de Cockfield held it of Walter Fitz-Robert.

About 1272 Robert de Beckhall firſt had that half fee which was formerly Robert Cockfield's, and another quarter of a fee joined to it, held of the lady Maud de Boyland, from whoſe manor he had purchaſed it.

In 1429, Nov. 4, ſir Richard Carbonel, knt. by will, ordered his manors of Wilby, &c. to be ſold to pay his debts. In 1459 Alice, widow of ſir Andrew Hogard, knt. of Buckenham-Caſtle, after of ſir Hugh Cokeſey, knt. died ſeiſed of a part of it, which always went with that caſtle, till ſir Edmund Knevet ſold it.

In 1495 Thomas Mounteney, and Thomas Curſon, eſqrs. were lords, it being held of the ſaid Curſon, as of his manor of Wilby-Hall, by 4s. rent.

In 1526 John Mounteney, of Foxele, gent. conveyed to John Green, of Wilby, gent. all his manors, lands, &c. in Wilby.

In 1532 Richard Bainard, gent. Edmund Knevet, knt. and John White, eſq. ſold Beck-Hall manor to John Green, &c. his truſtees, and ſo all the parts were joined again by Green's purchaſe. In 1564 it contained 12 meſſuages, 220 acres of land, 220 acres of paſture, 4s. 8d. rent, &c. all which were held by Mr. Thomas Green of ſir Chriſtopher Heydon, knt. in right of Temperance, his wife, relict of Tho-

mas Grey, as of his manor of Bainard's-Hall, in Bunwell; he died ſeiſed alſo of Hargham, &c. In 1571 Matthew Bacon, gent. was lord, in right of Cecily, his wife, relict of Thomas Green, as guardian to Francis Green, her ſon, who died without iſſue in 1580, leaving it diviſible among his five ſiſters, of whoſe huſbands John Wilton, of Topcroft, gent. bought their ſeveral parts, and compleated his title in 1622; he purchaſed the advowſon, and joined it to the manor. Robert Wilton, of Wilby, eſq. purchaſed Wilby-Hall manor, and the hundred of Shropham, and by ſo doing joined the leet to the manor, and made the eſtate compleat. Nicholas Wilton, of Wilby, eſq. his ſon, ſold the manors, hundred, and advowſon, to Ralph Hare, of Hargham, eſq. whoſe deſcendant, Hugh Hare, eſq. ſon of Thomas Hare, of Hargham, eſq. deceaſed, is lord and patron.

The advowſon of the rectory after the diſſolution came to the crown, and in 1558 was held by Edward lord North, and John Williams, in free ſoccage, by fealty only, as of Eaſt Greenwich manor, in Kent, and went afterwards till it was ſold to John Wilton.

In 1504 William Hammond, ſenior, of Wilby, inſeoffed a cloſe, called Nells, in Wilby, to the uſe of the repairs of the church for ever; it abutts weſt on the ſtreet, and was given in 1480 by John Nell, of Wilby.

In 1637 Richard Wilton, of Topcroft, gave a rood of ground, and built an alms-houſe thereon; over the door of which his arms ſtill remain. The manor of Old Buckenham extended hither ſo early as in 1366.

Eccles

Eccles manor extended hither in the time of Henry VIII. it being part of the biſhop's manor of Eccles, which was part of his barony before the exchange.

The rectory is valued in the king's books at 7l. 4s. 9d. ob. Synodals 1s. and Norwich taxation ten marks, and being ſworn of the value of 48l. 14s. 2d. it is diſcharged both of firſt-fruits and tenths. It hath a good rectory-houſe, and ſeveral acres of glebe. It paid 3l. 6s. 8d. every tenth, and is now aſſeſſed at 45l. to the land tax. In 1603 there were eighty-eight communicants, and now* there are about 160 inhabitants.

Mortuaries are paid in this pariſh to the rector, according to the act. The temporalities of Buckenham priory, in this town, were taxed at 7s. 10d. In 1507 the town of Beſthorpe had lands here, lying by the Guildhall.

In 1603 a fire broke out in the parſonage-yard, occaſioned by carrying a lighted ſtick through it, which burned down the barn, ſtable, gate-houſe, the roof and ſeats of the church and chancel, and all the timber-work of the ſteeple, to 79ol. value.

William de Eſchoies (or le Scot) gave this and Banham advowſons, and a part of the tithes of his demeſnes, to St. Mary's abbey, near the walls at York, which was confirmed by the biſhop of Norwich, and archbiſhop of Canterbury; part of this portion of tithes, with that at Banham, was ſettled by the abbey on their cell at Rumburgh, in Suffolk, and in 1528 was granted with it to Cardinal Wolſey, towards building his colleges in Ipſwich and Oxford, by patent, dated Dec. 30, in the 20th of Henry VIII.

In

* Blomefield.

In 1463 John Baſham, chaplain, farmed the rectory at thirteen marks a year, ſerved the cure, and had three gowns a year, fitting the rector's degree.

The church is dedicated to the honor of All Saints; the chancel and ſouth porch are tiled, and there is a low ſquare tower with five bells.

On ſtones in the chancel, Kedington impales Buxton.—*Henry Kedington, eſq. died March* 21, *anno Dom.* 1713, *aged* 40 *years.*

Alſo,—*Margaret, relict of Henry Kedington, of Hockham, eſq. eldeſt daughter of Robert Buxton, of Channons-Hall, in Tybenham, eſq. died October* 21, 1711, *aged* 56 *years.*

Here lieth the body of that faithful patriot, and true lover of his country, Robert Wilton, of Wilby, in the county of Norfolk, eſq. he died Nov. 19, 1657, *aged* 58. —Wilton's arms, with Drury, Meade, and Jay.—Alſo three inſcriptions to the wives of Robert Wilton, eſq. of Wilby.

Bell impaling Knevet, which was put up for Muriell, widow of ſir Robert Bell, of Beaupre-Hall, in Clackcloſe hundred, knt. daughter of ſir Thomas Knevet, the elder, of Aſhwelthorpe, who was buried here.

Elizabeth Pierſon, the ſecond wife of Thomas Pierſon, eſq. of Middleton, in Freebridge Lynn, died at this place the 27th of Oct. 1727.

In 1769 the Rev. William Lobb was preſented to the rectory of Wilby, conſolidated with Hargham, by Hugh Hare, eſq. of Hargham.

HISTORY